

The STEER Project - Major Results

Erhöhung der <u>STE</u>uerungskompetenz zur <u>ER</u>reichung der Ziele eines integrierten Wassermanagements

Increasing Good Governance for Achieving the Objectives of Integrated Water Resources Management

GRoW Conference 21st of October 2020





STEER's Objectives



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- Development of a diagnostic approach
- Analysis of the transferability of insights on water governance (emphasis on coordination) to different contexts
- Elaboration of strategies to support transformative change towards improved water governance and management
- Support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Steps



3. Broader Comparative study

(investigate combinations of conditions)



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2. Assess in-depth case studies

(and discuss potential instruments with stakeholders)

4. Develop diagnostic governance tool

(supporting integrated and adaptive water management)



Step 1: Develop Conceptual-Methodological

Research Approach – Variables

Processes P1 Decentralization - implemented P2 Coordination - implemented P2.1 Vertical P2.2. Horizontal ➤ Regime Type – & GS P3 Governance Modes P3.1A No dominance P3.1B Synergistic interplay • P3.2 Meta-governance P5 Stakeholder participation P6 Actor-decision constellation P6.1 Transaction costs P6.2 Structure of decision situation (actors, options, pay-offs) P6.3 De facto autonomy of actors P7 ES use and interaction patterns P8 Fit coordination processes and ES-uses P9 Knowledge management - integration With protocol for data collection Performance Outcomes O1 Results coordination & cooperation O2 Presence and severity of conflicts O3 Learning - single, double, triple **Impacts**

Governance and Management System Governance Structure **Processes Planning Ecosystem** Implemen-Services tation Interactions

Context

Outcomes -Coordination and Cooperation Impacts -

Sustainability of resource management

Context

C1 Environmental

- C1.1 Hydrologic variability
- C1.2 Physical water scarcity
- · C1.3 Climate change

C2 Env-Soc-Interaction – Use pressure

- C2.1 Intensity of agriculture
- C2.2 Population density demographic
- C2.3 Modification of flow regime
- C3 Societal political
- C3.1 Level of democracy achieved
- C3.2 Degree of federalism

C4 Implementation capacity

- C4.1 Economic capacity development
- C4.2 Institutional capacity development
- C4.3 State capacity
- C4.4 Human capacity

Governance Structure

G1 Decentralization – formal provisions

G2 Coordination – formal provisions

- G2.1 Vertical
- G2.2 Horizontal
 - ➤ Regime Type (polycentric ...) & PI
- G3 Governance modes no dominance
- G4 Coherence
- G4.1 Coherence functional organization
- G4.2 Policy incoherence
 - G4.2f Temporal incoherence

G5 Interplay formal and informal institutions

G6 Power constellations

- G6.1 De jure autonomy
- G6.2 Power asymmetries

G8 Fit coordination (formal) and ES uses

G9 Implementation capacity

- G9.1 Financial capacity
- G9.2 Institutional capacity
- G9.3 Human capacity
- G9.4 Data availability

G10 Accountability and Transparency (formal provisions)

- G10.1 Transparency
- G10.2 Accountability

11 Water security

- I1.1 economic
- I1.2 social
- I1.3 environmental
- I2 ES use impacts
- 12.1 Degree of exploitation of ES
- 12.2 trade-offs or synergies



Guiding Hypotheses on What Supports Governance Capacity

- Polycentric structures with flexible coordination across sectoral and administrative boundaries
- Synergistic combination of governance modes (Markets, Bureaucratic Hierarchies, Networks)
- Synergistic not conflictual relationships between formal and informal institutions
- Coherence of sectoral policies
- Ecosystem services approach to make complex interdependencies and trade-offs explicit and meaningful

More Information



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Enhancing the capacity of water governance to deal with complex management challenges: A framework of analysis



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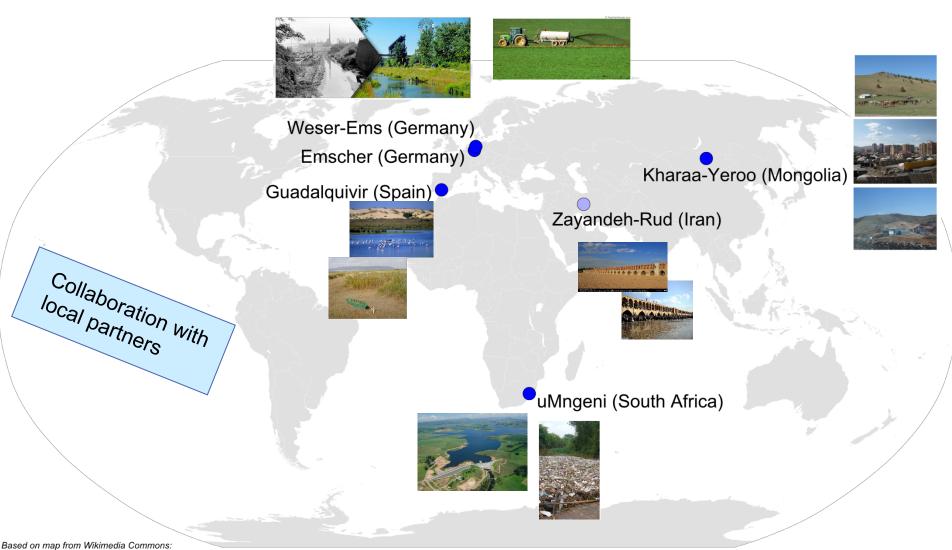
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Step 2: Assess In-Depth Case Studies



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:BlankMap-World6.svg?uselang=de (accessed on January 29th 2019)



Some Overarching Observations

- Implementation is a key challenge also in highly developed economies
- Hybrid coordination instruments (integrating governance styles) seem to play a key role
- The role of (different types of) knowledge generation, integration, accessibility – needs to receive more attention
- Coordination is a complex multi-facetted process



Photo by Ashkan Forouzani on Unsplash



More Information:

Policy Briefs for each case study

- Koordination und Kooperation von Wasserwirtschaft, Naturschutz und Freiraumentwicklung beim Emscher-Umbau
- Strengthening coordination in river basin governance in Southern Spain cooperation, incentives, and persuasion
- Forums, fees and data flows Coordinating mining and water policy in Mongolia
- Coordination beyond the state to solve complex water problems Insights from South Africa
- Im Spannungsfeld von Wasser-, Energie- und Landwirtschaftspolitik: Neue Wege für den Wasserschutz in der Weser-Ems-Region
- Reviving the dying giant: addressing the political causes of water shortage in the Zayandeh Rud River, Iran



Step 3: Broader Comparative Study



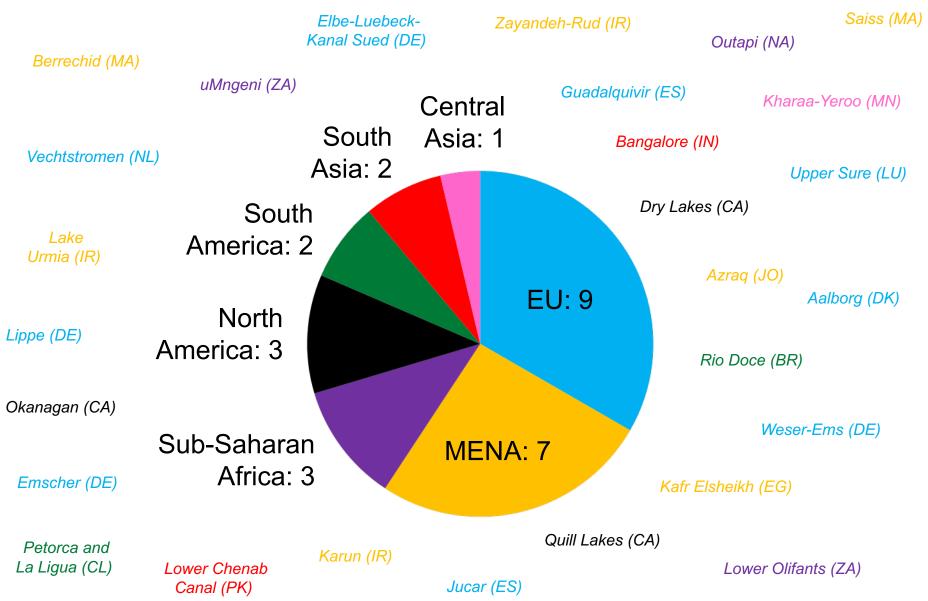
Photo by <u>Emiliano</u> Vittoriosi on Unsplash

Objective:

Identification of **combinations of factors** that are necessary or sufficient for successful water management – especially for good cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation

27 Cases







Some General Insigths from the Broader Comparative Study

- Institutional capacity is a necessary but not sufficient condition for effective coordination
- Polycentric governance systems perform better than centralized or fragmented governance systems
- Vertical (across levels) and horizontal (across sectors) coordination are interdependent
- Analysing and implementing coordination needs to take into consideration formal and informal processes and context



Step 4: Develop Diagnostic Governance Tool for Practitioners



- Inventory of instruments for better coordination and cooperation (e.g. cross-sectoral)
- Operationalizes the diagnostic approach: shows what instruments are suitable under what conditions (based on insights from steps 2 & 3)



Step 4: Develop Diagnostic Governance Tool for Practitioners

- Users describe the governance system in their region. The Tool provides national context data.
- Based on user input, the Tool makes a diagnosis, showing governance strengths and weaknesses. Similar cases from the STEER dataset are shown to facilitate learning.
- As a therapy, the Tool recommends specific coordination instruments to address identified weaknesses.
- The Tool allows the collection of further case studies to improve the diagnostic strength of the approach.

Thank your for your attention: the STEER Team





Meeting in pre-Corona times.....

For more information visit: https://www.steer.uni-osnabrueck.de/