

3rd Meeting on the Water Footprint policy brief

Summary report of main discussion points

Date: 17 May 2019
Place: Meeting
Participants: See list in Appendix

**Responsible Person/
Moderator:** Dr. Markus Berger, GRoWnet team

Part 1: Discussion on the WF Policy Brief

Introductory part of the paper

Rephrase 1st sentence to include view of future.

Include one example of food e.g. beef --> maybe say “up to”.

Include Virtual Water and WF? --> maybe adding a reference to clarify which WF we are talking about?

Bullets:

- Add well-being in bullets
- Add urban as an ecosystem --> urban “green spaces”, “landscapes” (ref. HN's paper)

References: keep them in --> 2 versions (printed and online)

Title: switched from position paper to policy brief --> to inform the policy makers

Methodological challenges

FS: Comment on intro sentence

General comment: differentiate between challenges (in text) and GRoW approaches/solutions (text boxes)

Comment AS6: what is the “local” level? --> depends on the scale of application of the WF concept.

Suggestion FS:

- 1st challenge – general: bring first 2 bullets together --> under complex scientific conditions application of complex methodologies --> GRoW makes sure we are not lost with toolbox, making sure problems like missing inventory data and scaling up are addressed.
 - Textbox on how to address these general challenges

- 2nd challenge – proper methodological challenges on WF --> green water/blue water and missing inventory data
 - Textbox: Recommendations, Ervin's point on MedWater, InoCottonGROW

Green/blue water: having same understanding is a challenge? --> agreement on the fact that green water is important and should be included, because we also have limited green water resources (not only blue water scarcity is a problem). Different ways to deal and manage green water in different systems.

Formulation: remove "blue" water scarcity.

Toolkit --> remove if from the policy brief, have it only in a textbox.

The WF Concept – Opportunities for achieving SDGs

Agriculture: include it but as a proper group of actors to be addressed? --> add it in both sections

Consumers

Suggestion FS on Consumers: "In this way unsustainable consumption of W intense products can be identified and subsequently reduced, and it can contribute to incentivize agriculture and industry to produce water efficient products."

Producers (instead of Private sector)

Add agriculture

Add a bullet on energy (Ervin / WANDEL)

Policy

New section on how the WF concept can inform policy decisions (e.g. no rice in Brandenburg).

Combine points 2 and 3.

The potential to reduce water scarcity by promoting *more sustainable* green water uses...

Add other examples besides almonds (blue water), maybe also add meat here (green water), as well as examples on the other bullets?

Add a bullet on energy (Ervin / WANDEL)

Complement criticism:

- From a transformation point of view: how to transform the given situation? --> reference to be made from transformation research
- Ask Uni Kiel for their point of view on this (ViWA)?

Next steps:

- adelphi will integrate comments until end of May
- input by others QT members until mid-June
- final version by end of June --> professional design and layout in July.
- Prepare a more detailed timeline for finalization until the SWWW.

Part 2: Toolkit

Very often results are very different because different methods lead to different results (look at different aspects of the same coin) OR right method is used for wrong question!

Idea of the toolkit: help solve these problems by providing guidance.

List of papers: not comprehensive --> the ones used by TU Berlin.

Comments:

- Point out methods to assess:
 - Water quality
 - Green / blue / grey water WF
- > "Used" is a general term: consumed or produced?
- Open source data or not?
- Does the selection of database follow methods? --> not necessarily, databases can be used directly. Also, question about data requirements could be asked towards the end in order to select the method from a range of possible methods in the end.
- Target group: practitioners who would like to do something with the WF (companies, consultants)
- Maybe the questions in decision-tree lead to methods --> then the method tells you what you need in terms of data and where you find it.
- Maybe differentiate target groups: company / consultant / actors e.g. mayor of a city

Next steps:

- adelphi will put decision tree into a format and prepare a template for input requirements & database contents table until mid-june
- Maybe present the toolkit in the next LK-Sitzung and ask for feedback in terms of practical use (develop a detailed table on databases / input requirements)

Part 3: Event at the SWWW

- Ask PTKA about welcoming words (BMBF / BMZ?)
- Plan for TelCo with A. Lammerding & M. Berger to clarify GIZ input
- TelCo with Rick & M. Berger next week to clarify input
- Ask SWWW organisers for type of room available for this event?
- GRoW project partners please send names and titles of presentation to adelphi
➔ Deadline: 30 June 2019

Other topics

Would it be interesting to aim for a journal article based on the policy brief? --> GRoWnet can do some research to see which journal could be interesting.

Synthesis report: including detailed case studies from the projects? --> contents based on research papers, but targeting other groups than researchers.

Appendix

A) List of participants

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