Water Issues and Diplomacy







Cross border waters: Lessons from success stories

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Cross border Waters: Lessons from success stories



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SENEGAL RIVER

- Erratic devastating floods!
- OMVS 1972, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal... + Guinea
- Firstly regulating the river,...then irrigation, electricity, etc.
- Fair distribution of benefits (e.g. electricity from dams)
- Contributing to peace ...
- Still operating despite...terrorism, war...

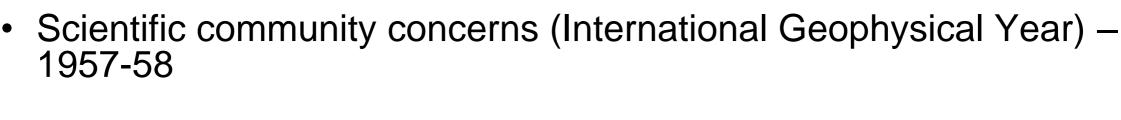






Cross border Waters: Lessons from success stories ANTARCTIC OCEAN

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- Antarctic Treaty: 1959, 12 countries... now 55
- Focus on scientific cooperation (full sharing of information)
- No military activity (transparency: accessibility to all sites)
- No possibility of "territorial claim" (except for US and USSR, but the right was not used)
- Later, treaty was completed by an "Environment protocol"
- Since 2004 a secretariat established in Buenos Aires
- Today, observations of the Antarctic are keys for future of mankind



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Cross border waters:

Lessons from success stories

PELAGOS – Protected marine area in Western Med

- Late 1990s, concerns of marine zoos and biologists for disappearance of dolphins and other marine mammals.
- In 2002, creation of the Pelagos Sanctuary (Genoa Golf Corsica, Sardinia and Porqueroles Islands), by France, Italia and Monaco
- Protection of mammals, reduction of overfishing, fighting pollution...
- Marine life regained...
- 2019, institutional reinforcement with Monaco support.
- A model for other (international) marine protected areas.





Conclusions (common features of success stories) and a question

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- Start with a modest, precise, professional objective
- Ensure benefits for all parties, fairly shared
- Have monitoring/controlling instruments
- Extend gradually ambitions and/or members of the scheme
- Question: Can this set of principles be applied in (already) conflict-affected areas (such as Mekong delta, Nile sources, Eastern Med and many others)?







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