



Water & Nature Initiative  
Initiative pour l'eau et la nature  
Iniciativa del agua y la naturaleza

# Mitigating Environmental Impacts

## - Seeing The Bigger Picture -

Ger Bergkamp & John Dore

UN Symposium on Hydropower  
and Sustainable Development  
Beijing, October 2004



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# Key Messages

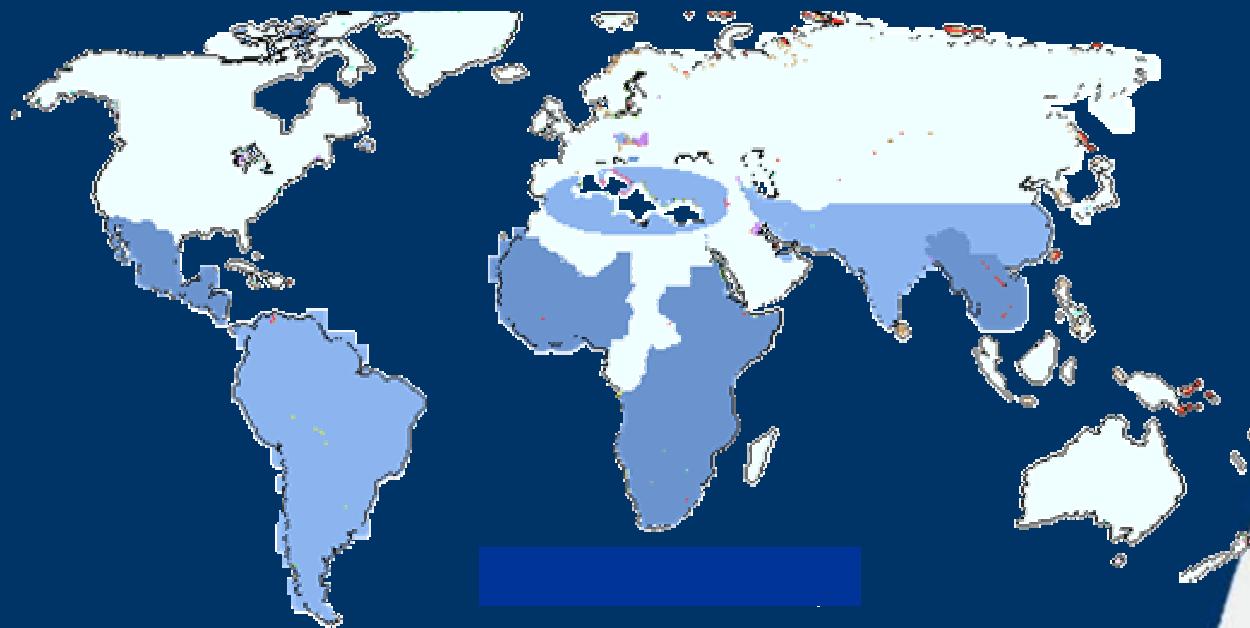
- Multi-stakeholder engagement is critical: a wide range of **partnership options** need to be considered
- Mitigation of environmental impacts is complex and more know-how and experience is needed: a **Social learning** approach is required.
- Establishing an appropriate **environmental flow** is essential: a flow regime that balances the needs of people and nature



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## A world of difference





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# River Basin Support 1

- **River basin focus**

Mekong, Huong, Okavango, Pangani, Volta, Senegal,  
Komadugu Yobe, Pungwe, Tanganyika, Tacana,  
BASIM

- **Thematic focus**

Environmental Flows, Water Governance &  
Democracy, Environmental Economics & Finance,  
Climate Change

- **Products and services**

Toolkits, Expert & Practitioner Networks, Social  
Learning

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[www.waterandnature.org](http://www.waterandnature.org)

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# River Basin Support 2

- Multi-stakeholder

.gov / .com / .org / .edu ..... .net

- Investments

Start-up: USD 100,000  
USD 2.5 – 70 million

- Time-scale

Start-up: 2-3 years  
Implementation: 3-5 years



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# 1. Partnerships.....everywhere...

Task oriented

**task force**

consortium **alliance**

**working group**

**coalition**

*client-provider*

**consultative group**

**team**

**dialogue** **forum**

Relationship oriented

**KNOW WHAT TO USE .. WHEN ...HOW**



**UICN**

**REUNION BINACIONAL  
MEXICO - GUATEMALA  
“MANEJO INTEGRADO DE CUENCAS  
ASOCIADAS AL VOLCAN TACANA”  
TAPACHULA CHIAPAS  
SEPTIEMBRE 26 DEL 2002**



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# Partnership Lessons 1

- **Patience**

- Stakeholder identification & analysis
- Willingness to collaborate....the weakest link
- Licence to operate (convene, facilitate)

- **Trust building**

- Small scale visible actions & results
- Solving some smaller challenges
- Transparency & process clarity
- Creating a shared vision & ....values

- **? One size fits all ?**

- Tailor to specific situations
- Build from existing structures / mechanisms



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## Partnership Lessons 2

- **Ownership**

- Clarify stakes
- Balance amongst stakeholders
- Inclusiveness ....
- Individuals matter ....

- **Exposure**

- Double edged sword
- Minimum critical size needed first
- Coalitions for water policy reforms

- **Habitual patterns**

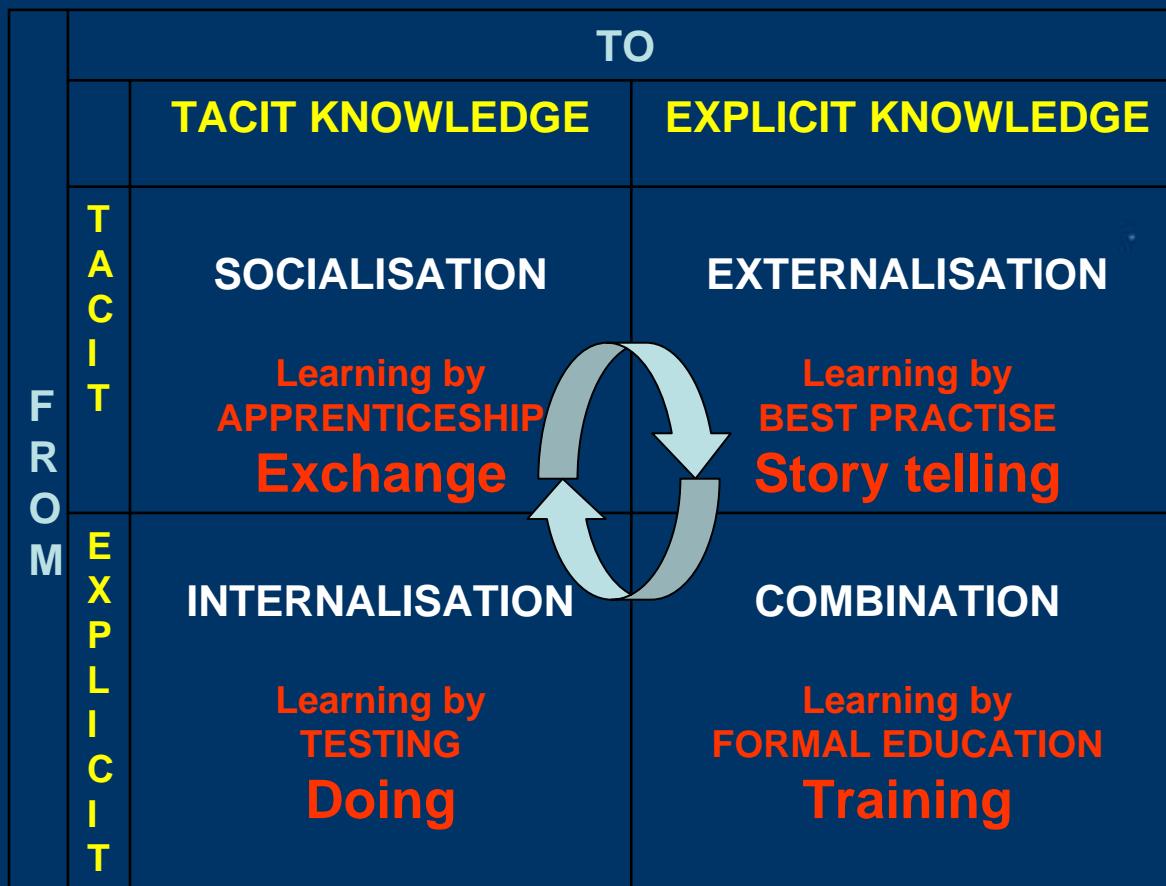
- Stakeholders locked in
- Overcoming stereotypes
- Paradigm shift often needed – political



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## 2. Social Learning

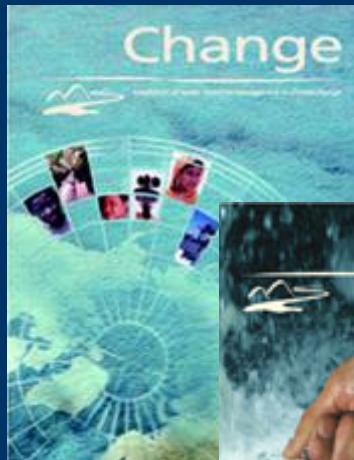
### Environmental Aspects - Drivers of Development





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# Water and Nature Tool Series



**CHANGE**

**FLOW**

**VALUE**

**POWER**

**RULE**

**PAY**

**FIX**

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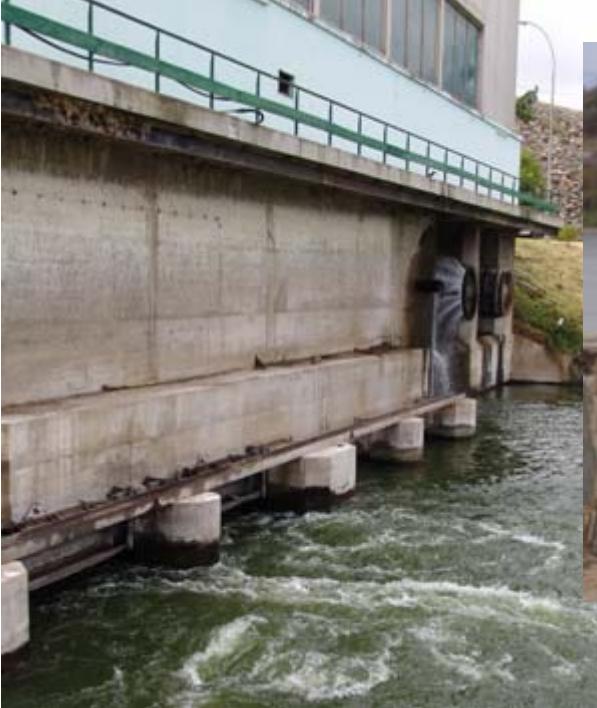




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## 3. Environmental Flows (1)

Findings of promoting best practice:



Nyumba ya Mungu Dam  
Pangani Basin - Tanzania  
8 MW  
25 – 45 kWh  
40 m<sup>3</sup> / s

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## 3. Environmental Flows - Case

Pangani basin – Tanzania  
Training in Flow Assessments





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## 3. Environmental Flows (1)

Findings of promoting best practice:

- Environmental flow assessments: part of river basin planning
- No single best approach: tailored approaches required
- Implementation with new and existing infrastructure
- Existing incentives need to change to motivate actors



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## 3. Environmental Flows (2)

**Findings of promoting best practice:**

- Cost-Benefit / Multi-criteria analysis is critical
- Institutional set-up: river basin institutions / mechanism vital
- National legislation, policies & operating rules – framework
- Communication to stakeholders
- Coalition – building alliances with civil society, science, government and private sector



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# Seeing the Bigger Picture 1

**Issues, usually mentioned, sometimes addressed:**

Environmental/ecological risks

Cumulative impacts

Transboundary impacts

## Economics

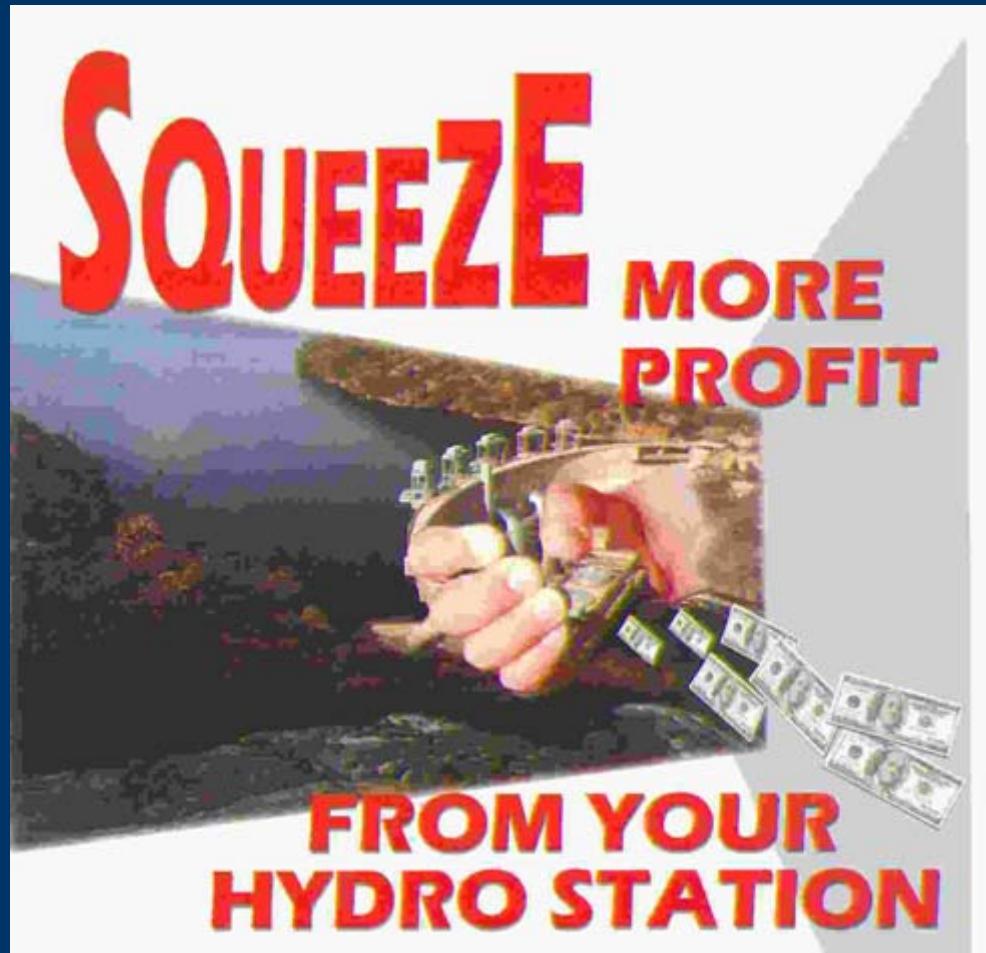
- What is counted?
- How robust are assumptions?
- What is externalised?



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## Economic opportunity from upgrading ?





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# Seeing the Bigger Picture 2

## Bigger ENERGY picture

- Hydropower context of overall energy policy
- Energy security
- Demand projections
- Alternatives

## Bigger POLITICAL ECONOMY picture

- How are decisions made in a particular country?
- Who has most influence? Why?
- National control versus provincial control
- Changing nature of public-private partnerships
- Changes with energy industry reforms?
- Regulatory role of the State? Is it keeping up?



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