

STOCKHOLM

WATER

FRONT

A FORUM FOR GLOBAL WATER ISSUES

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Interviews

Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

A Last Ditch Effort to Save the Jordan River

Namibia

Development Under Water Duress

Ten reasons to come to Stockholm

2013 World Water Week

SIWI LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAMMES

Working with partners in
Asia and Africa.

► PAGE 3

SINGAPORE INVESTS IN WINNING INNOVATION

2012 Stockholm Junior
Water Prize winners'
research goes national.

► PAGE 4

EXPLORING WATER COOPERATION

Reporting back from
World Water Day.

► PAGE 13

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WWW.SIWI.ORG/
NEWSLETTER



A RISING TIDE

Photo: Thomas Henriksson



Our blue planet is at a most interesting cross-road. Water challenges continue to grow more pressing as demand for finite resources escalates due to both population and economic

growth. The requirements to produce more food and energy, as well as the variability of water availability, are putting our water resources under significant stress. Demand from manufacturing industries is projected to quadruple to 2050, and water use by both thermal electricity generation and households is set to more than double. Today, 783 million people around the world still do not have access to clean water and almost 2.5 billion live without adequate sanitation. On all fronts, more needs to be done to create a world where the human right to clean water and sanitation is fulfilled for all people.

But there are many reasons for optimism. Attention to water issues is rising as a social, political, and development priority. The international community is now discussing the creation of new wise ambitions that will support the movement towards a sustainable and

desirable world for all – the so called Post-2015 Development Agenda. In this issue, *Stockholm Water Front* had the opportunity to hear the thoughts from those deeply engaged in this process who explain why a ‘water goal’ is something we should aim for.

During the International Year of Water Cooperation, we do see more collaboration emerging between governments, the private sector, academia and civil society. As you can read about here, this is especially important, but can also be exceptionally challenging, in water stressed regions like the Lower Jordan River.

We also hope to contribute to improved cooperation and more concrete outcomes through the World Water Week on the same theme. In case you haven’t booked your tickets to Stockholm already, we offer our top ten reasons why we think your trip will be worth it. We look forward to seeing you in Stockholm!

Mr. Torgny Holmgren
Executive Director
Stockholm International Water Institute

COVER PHOTO
NASA/Wikipedia

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INDEX

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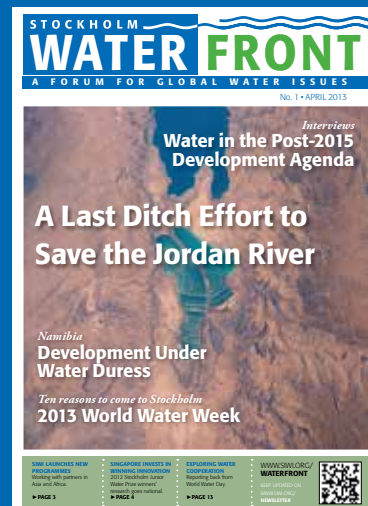
3 NEWS & NOTES
Latest news and publications

6 SAVE THE JORDAN RIVER
Looking at alternative solutions

10 WATER IN THE POST-2015
Interviews with Ms. Cecilia Scharp and Mr. Bart Davos

12 WATER COOPERATION
Reflections from thought-leaders in Stockholm on World Water Day

14 2013 WORLD WATER WEEK
Top ten reasons to attend!



news & notes

SIWI Launches New Programmes in Asia and Africa

In 2013, SIWI has launched Partner Driven Cooperation programmes that will develop capacity to support improved water management in India, Vietnam, China, Botswana and Namibia.

In Botswana, SIWI is partnering with the Botswana Department of Water Affairs (DWA) to jointly implement a two-year capacity building programme to support the restructuring of Botswana's water sector. Ten courses will be held, and each will consist of three one week modules. Topics include: corporate transformation and change management; integrated water resources management; research, knowledge management and benchmarking; water resources policy; integrated data management; climate change and variability in water resources management; water allocation and demand management; and sanitation and wastewater management. SIWI will also support the DWA in establishing a Water Knowledge Hub, which will be a national centre of excellence, conducting applied research, monitoring local and global trends in water management, and providing policy advice to the Department.

In Namibia, SIWI is working with the Swedish Meteorological and Hydro-

logical Institute (SMHI) to partner with the Namibia Water Corporation (NamWater) and the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAFF) on a series of joint activities to build capacity and provide technical support in specified areas that are of particular current concern to the Namibian water sector, including infrastructure asset management, corporate governance and trans-boundary water management. SIWI will also work with NamWater to develop a research and knowledge management policy, and support DWAFF in planning for the establishment of three new water sector institutions (read more on page 9).

In China, SIWI is working with the Ministry of Environmental Protection Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Wuhan University on a series of joint activities. The partners will jointly develop capacity building programmes in water quality management; facilitate twinning arrangements between international and Chinese basin authorities; and provide technical support to policy makers in the application of economic instruments in water quality management.

In India, SIWI is working with Swedish

fashion brands Indiska, KappAhl and Lindex on a two-year programme to help 39 suppliers and sub-suppliers to the textile industry improve their water management. The cooperation aims to enhance water efficiency and reduce pollution during textile production processes.

In Vietnam, SIWI is collaborating with the Vietnamese Association for the Conservation of Nature (VACNE) to improve current knowledge and documentation of the impacts of climate change on the farming communities in the Mekong and Red River deltas. With pilot activities in three provinces, the project aims to increase the resilience of farming communities and build capacities of water management practitioners at government agencies on how to address climate change.

Each of these programmes is co-financed by local partners, together with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

► **Learn more about all SIWI's expanding portfolio of programmes at www.siwi.org/knowledgeservices**



BOTSWANA PARTNER

Botswana Department of Water Affairs (DWA)



NAMIBIA PARTNERS

Namibia Water Corporation (NamWater) and the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAFF)

Additional partners

Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)



CHINA PARTNERS

Ministry of Environmental Protection Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Wuhan University



INDIA PARTNERS

39 suppliers and sub-suppliers to Swedish fashion brands: Indiska, KappAhl and Lindex



VIETNAM PARTNERS

The Vietnamese Association for the Conservation of Nature (VACNE)

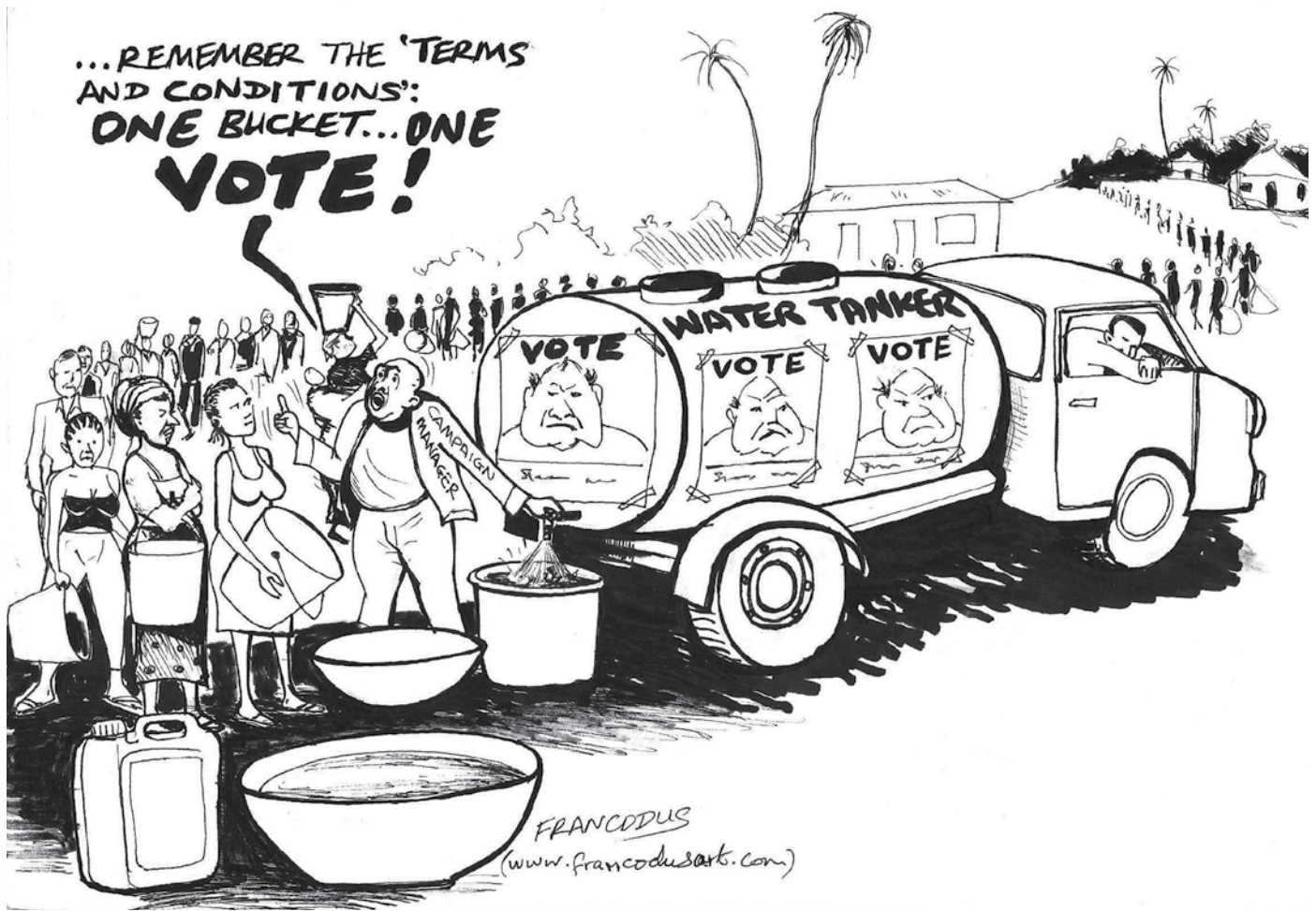


Photo: Mikael Ullén

Mr. Francis Umendu Odupute receives the award from Ms. Amanda Marlin Programme Manager Advocacy & Communications, WSSCC

Winning Cartoon of the WASH Media Awards

Francis Umendu Odupute, a Nigerian artist and journalist, won the Cartoon Category in the WASH Media Awards 2011-2012. This cartoon depicts methods used by candidates in the race for national elections in Nigeria. His work has been featured in the Nigerian Observer Newspaper where he heads the Graphic Arts section.

PUB Singapore Invests in 2012 Stockholm Junior Water Prize Winning Innovation

In a nation renowned for world-class water treatment and management, Luigi Marshall Cham, Jun Yong Nicholas Lim and Tian Ting Carrie-Anne Ng may have found an even smarter way to deal with a problem that piles up everywhere: laundry. In Singapore 20 per cent of household water consumption is used for laundry, making it a major source of both water use and pollution. Their practical and innovative method to treat laundry wastewater won them the top prize in the 2012 Stockholm Junior

Water Prize competition and is now being taken on by the Public Utility Board (PUB) of Singapore for further testing and development.

When household detergents assure you that they are 'tough on stains', they neglect to mention that they can be tough on the environment too. Non-ionic surfactants, soap-like additives which are used in industry as well as in household detergents and cosmetic products, are common pollutants to wastewater that are hard to remove. Current techniques

used to treat them produce hazardous sludge which is difficult to dispose of. The students from Anderson Junior College (AJC), Singapore, developed a method where bentonite clay is used to remove, and recover, 99 per cent of these pollutants from the water without the generation of any waste products.

Upon returning home as the first team from Singapore to win the international competition, they proposed their idea to the PUB with the hope that someday they may implement it.

Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (TWAP) Enters Main Phase

The “Full Size Project” phase of the Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (TWAP) was launched at a workshop held in Copenhagen on March 4-6 and will run through December 2014. SIWI will coordinate multiple components of the transboundary rivers group under the TWAP, which aims to develop a template for conducting transboundary water assessments in different settings worldwide.

► **Read more at**
www.siwi.org/twap

Inaugural Water Integrity Forum to be Held in Early June 2013

The UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI will hold a workshop at the First Water Integrity Forum, which will be held in the Netherlands on June 5-7. Organised by the Water Integrity Network (WIN), Water Governance Centre (WGC) and UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, the forum will gather professionals and policy makers to share knowledge, approaches and experiences to address the integrity challenges in the water sector.

► **Read more at**
www.waterintegrityforum.com

SIWI Releases Its New Strategy for 2013-2017

SIWI has now released its strategy for the five year period of 2013-2017, which lays out the objectives and targeted outcomes that will guide our work over the next half decade. It is available for free download at www.siwi.org.



SIWI Annual Report 2012 Now Available

In the 2012 Annual Report, you can read about SIWI's achievements and key activities over the past year. Download it at www.siwi.org/annualreport2012



The team from Singapore received the award from H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, during 2012 World Water Week.

Their response was even better – they were interested in investing in more research to potentially expand its application.

Today, PUB is working with Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Environmental and Water Technology Centre of Innovation and will invest USD 42,500 to refine the students' tests in a new trial. Where the original project was only able to experiment with laundry wastewater, PUB will provide Ngee

Ann Polytechnic with actual industrial wastewater and allow them to test its capacities to remove other pollutants from different industries. Researchers also hope that they can develop a system that can be installed at industrial laundromats to reuse more water, as well as create smaller cartridges that families can add to their washing machines to lower the use of detergents.

A LAST DITCH EFFORT TO SAVE THE JORDAN RIVER

TEXT Mr. Rami Abdelrahman, Programme Officer and Dr. Anders Jägerskog, Director, Knowledge Services, SIWI

PHOTOS Mr. Rami Abdelrahman, Programme Officer, Knowledge Services, SIWI

Arguably one of the most endangered rivers on the planet, the river Jordan has been shrinking since one of the oldest continuously inhabited human cities, Jericho, was established on its West Bank. In biblical stories, the Israelites crossed the Jordan “against Jericho,” suggesting that the River was so wide, it reached Jericho. The exact geographical accuracy of this story cannot be defined, but today Jericho stands 10 kilometres away from the River’s West Bank.

A nearby spring, Ein es-Sultan, produces 3.8 cubic meters of water per minute, feeding farmlands between the river and Jericho. The region is governed by the Palestinian Authority; however, they do not have access to the river beyond the spring.

Furthermore, while Palestinians share the basin’s hydrological boundaries with Israel and Jordan, they do not have any rights to its waters, as it is totally controlled by Israel on the West Bank, and Jordan on the East.

Political hostilities have hindered any basin-wide agreement since the 1950s.

In the 1960s, several developments led to intensifying the speed of the river’s degradation. For example, Israel started diverting waters from the Sea of Galilee to its National Water Carrier. Around the same time, Jordan built a channel that diverted water from the Yarmouk River (shared by Jordan and Syria), also a main tributary of the Jordan River. Syria built reservoirs around the Yarmouk that reduced that amount of water feeding the Jordan River.

Since then, water has continuously been diverted from the Jordan River’s tributaries to satisfy human and agricultural needs. The flows of the Jordan River have decreased

rapidly since the 1960s, dropping from 1,300 million cubic meters (MCM) per year to less than 100 MCM per year today, consisting mostly of agriculture runoff. Accordingly, the river’s surface dropped from -395 meters below sea level to -410. Downstream, the surface of the Dead Sea has been lowered by 22 metres between 1970 and 2006, and has continued to drop about 1 metre per year since then. This has caused tremendous changes in its unique ecosystem, such as the creation large sinkholes along its western shore, due to a groundwater level drop causing brines to be flushed out by the freshwater.

The river was a major point of entry for negotiations leading up to the Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty 1994. The treaty established formal, albeit cold, relations between both countries. Technical consultations on water share management issues are held regularly between water authorities in both countries. Consultations are also held with the Palestinian authorities in the West Bank, but are more limited in their scope.

However, there is no direct or formal coordination between the Lower Jordan riparian countries (Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority) and the Upper Jordan riparian countries (Syria, and Lebanon).

Many solutions, little political will

A project to save the Dead Sea by building a canal on Jordanian territory conveying water from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea has recently been declared implementable, but it would cause serious ecological harm along the canal.

The World Bank, who coordinated the feasibility studies for the project, looked at other options as well and conducted a *Study of Alternatives*. The study concluded that “restoring the Lower Jordan River is a desirable goal with high environmental, historical and cultural values. Full restoration to historical flows would also address the first objective of saving the Dead Sea but is not economically

or socially feasible at this time. Full restoration of the water flow (of over 1,000 MCM/year) based on recycled water will become feasible in the long run, as the supply of potable water increases to meet the needs of the growing population.”

Last September, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) led a workshop for stakeholders from Jordan, Israel, and Palestine as well as regional and international experts to discuss a proposed framework for creating a master plan to rehabilitate the Lower Jordan River.

The Lower Jordan River Rehabilitation Master Plan project is funded by the European Union, and is managed by the Water and Environment Development Organization (WEDO) and Friends of the Earth/Middle East, together with SIWI and the Global Nature Fund, and is implemented by a consortium led by Royal Haskoning DHV. The goal is to have this plan ready by 2015 and establish the parameters for full-cooperation to rehabilitate the degrading river.

The workshop provided the consultant’s expert team with a regional vision that they will develop into a comprehensive master plan, looking at political, economic, ecological, social, security, cultural and other aspects of the much desired cooperation. The event gathered support from parliamentarians from Israel, Jordan and Palestine, who decided to meet again for further coordination on water related issues.

Stakeholders will be meeting again in Stockholm during the 2013 World Water Week, where developments on designing the master plan will be discussed, with the aim of raising the project’s international profile and political support.

Altering the status quo

While the rehabilitation of the Lower Jordan River could be seen as an alternative for saving both the Jordan River and the Dead



“Good water cooperation and governance can contribute to peace in the region”

View of the Lower Jordan River along the Jordan-Israel border in Bakura, north Jordan.

cover story

Sea, it should be seen as a top-priority, given its religious, political, cultural and ecological value. This master plan should be placed at the top of the agenda, even as Jordan and Israel continue with their plan to build the Red Sea-Dead Sea Conveyance Canal.

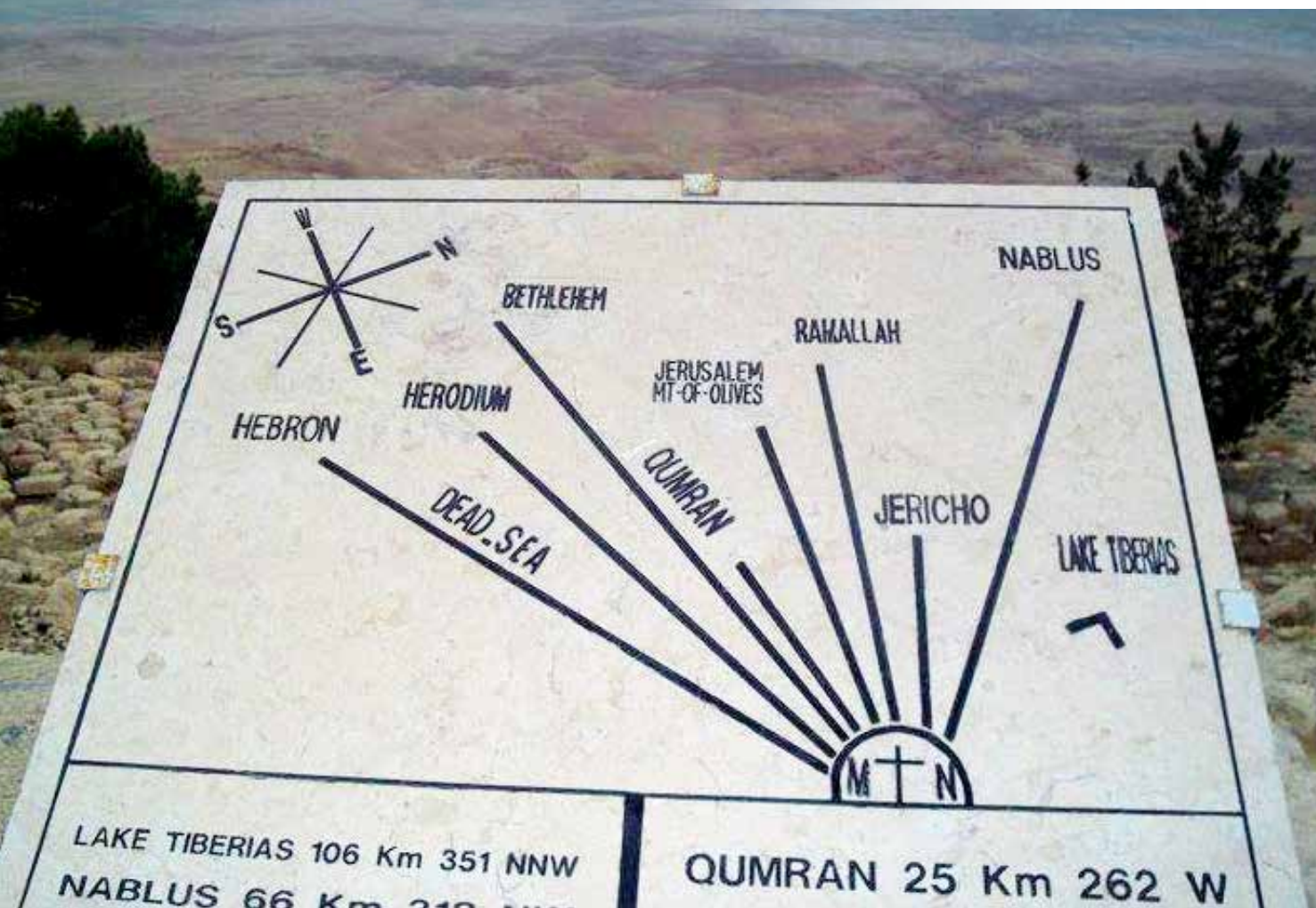
“The partial restoration of Lower Jordan River flows, over a two decade term, could possibly contribute 40 per cent to the quantity of water needed to stabilise the Dead Sea level... In the short and medium term, partial restoration of the Lower Jordan River should be seriously considered as a priority for water resources and environmental management in combination with partial restoration of the Dead Sea or increased supply of potable water to Amman and other areas,” according to authors of the behind the *Study of Alternatives*, which included the 2008 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate, Professor Tony Allan.

The study indicates that even partial restoration of the ecological services of the Lower Jordan River could ensure a minimum environmental flow to rehabilitate some of the aquatic ecological diversity of the river basin. The authors of the report argue that the rehabilitation of the Jordan River can be part of an incremental approach that combines several alternatives:

1. Combined Aqaba and Mediterranean coast desalination to address severe shortages of potable water.
2. Water importation and water recycling and conservation that could fully restore the lower Jordan River, stabilise the level of the Dead Sea above its current level and supply the additional water needs of Jordan, Palestine and Israel.
3. Other combinations include changes in crop patterns and technical changes to the mineral extraction industry.

In any case, whatever approaches parties will agree to move forward with, they should consider the larger future picture: a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict may be possible, as is full coordination with the northern riparian countries (Lebanon and Syria). This is not simple and also requires that relations in the Middle East move beyond hostilities and engage in peaceful coordination between the governments of Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. Good water cooperation and governance can contribute to peace in the region. ■

View of a stormy Jordan valley from Mount Nebo.



DEVELOPMENT UNDER WATER DURESS

TEXT Ms. Chibesa Pensulo, Programme Manager, Knowledge Services, SIWI

PHOTOS Mr. Volker Schumann, SXC

The most arid country in sub-Saharan Africa, Namibia is a country fully aware of its need to manage its water resources efficiently. This year, Namibia's bulk water utility, the Namibia Water Corporation (NamWater) has entered into a one-year collaborative programme with SIWI together with the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) and the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAf) to build local capacity to better address some of the country's water sector challenges.

In spite of its water challenges, Namibia's economy has shown steady growth since its independence in 1990. Water governance will continue to be critical to sustain its development as available renewable water resources per capita are far below the defined threshold for water scarcity and the mining sector places heavy demands on water resources. Namibia is also dependent on groundwater as its single largest source of water, accounting for 40 per cent of supply. Seawater desalination and wastewater recycling are already practised and expanding.

All four of Namibia's perennial rivers, the Okavango, Orange,

Zambezi and Cunene, and an important ephemeral system, the Cuvelai, are shared with neighbouring countries. Water use in upstream countries has a great effect on river flows, impacting the quantity, timing and quality of water. As more water resource infrastructure is developed upstream, these impacts intensify. At the same time, Namibia's own development options on these rivers are limited by the perceived impacts on countries further downstream. The recent discovery of a large confined aquifer in Northern Namibia brings hope for a water-abundant future, but there are concerns about possible contamination of this water by an overlying salty aquifer if drilling specifications are not carefully followed by all users. Furthermore, the costs of transferring water from the North to the rest of the country could be prohibitive.

Driven by partnership

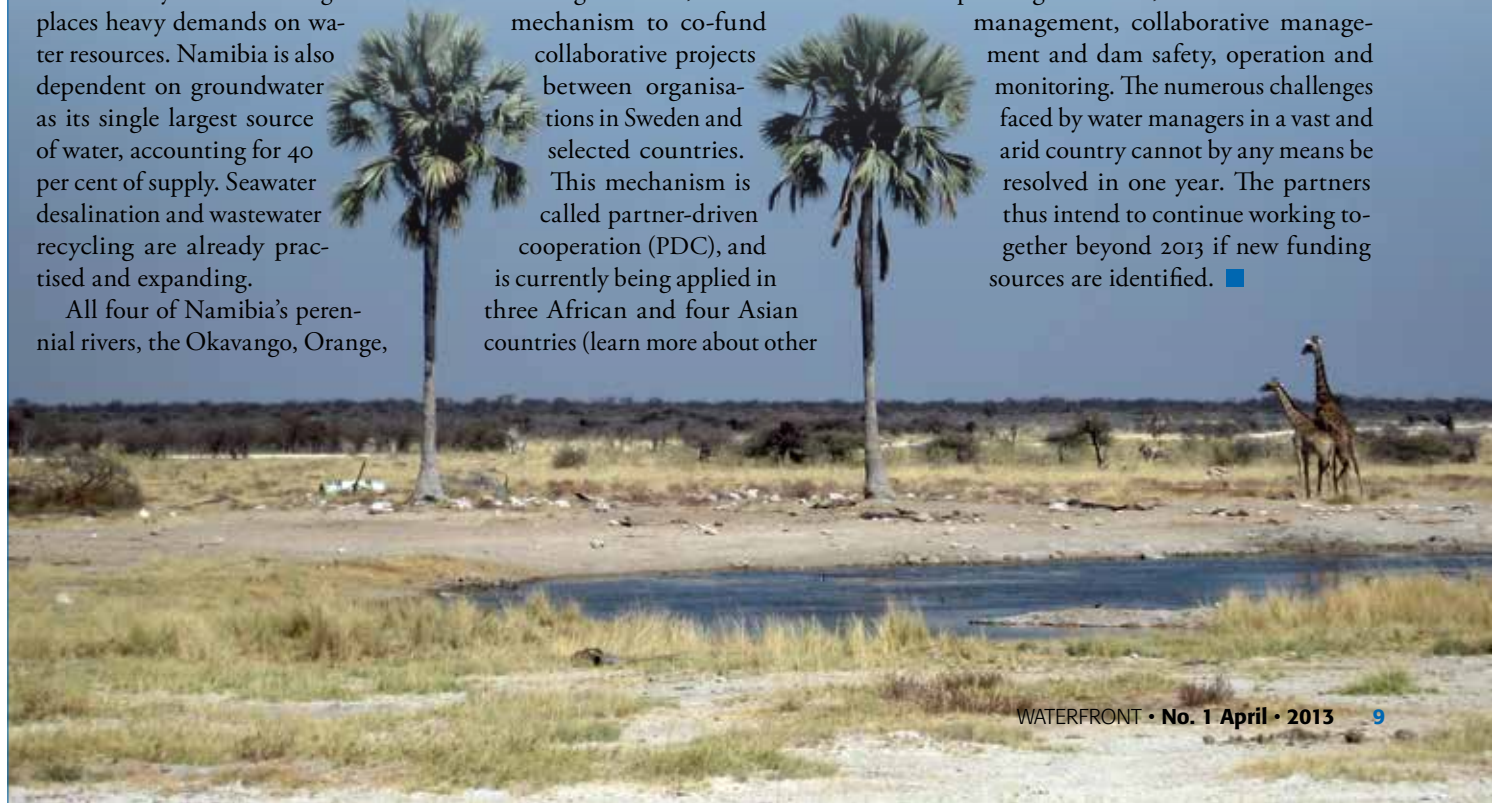
As the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is phasing out bilateral aid to middle-income countries, including Namibia, it has established a mechanism to co-fund collaborative projects

between organisations in Sweden and selected countries.

This mechanism is called partner-driven cooperation (PDC), and is currently being applied in three African and four Asian countries (learn more about other

programmes SIWI is involved in on page 3 of this issue). Through this partner-driven cooperation programme, SIWI, SMHI, DWAf and NamWater will embark on a series of joint activities to build capacity and provide technical support in specified areas that are of particular current concern to the Namibian water sector, including technical collaboration on hydrological and hydraulic modelling, groundwater monitoring and evaluation and the development of knowledge management systems.

In anticipation of the enactment of the new Namibian Water Resources Management Act, DWAf is preparing to establish three new institutions – the Water Regulatory Board, the Water Advisory Council and the Water Tribunal. DWAf will partner with SIWI to create a set of guidelines with practical advice on how to set up these new institutions. The partners will also implement capacity building courses in subjects of specific interest to the Namibian Water Sector, including: transboundary water management, corporate governance, infrastructure asset management, collaborative management and dam safety, operation and monitoring. The numerous challenges faced by water managers in a vast and arid country cannot by any means be resolved in one year. The partners thus intend to continue working together beyond 2013 if new funding sources are identified. ■



WATER IN THE POST-2015 DEVELO

INTERVIEW BY Ms. Maya Rebermark, Södertörn University
PHOTO Giulio Napolitano, FAO

The global dialogue, World We Want 2015, comprises of several UN-led processes which aim to help define the global development framework to succeed the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) after 2015. Alongside UN-Water and UNDESA, the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) co-led the Thematic Consultation on Water. Stockholm Water Front talks to Ms. Cecilia Scharp, Senior Advisor on Water and Sanitation at UNICEF, who shares her hopes for the future Post-2015 development agenda.

Photo: International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services



Can you describe UNICEF's role in the Post-2015 framework?

UNICEF co-lead five of the eleven Thematic Consultations (*Water, Conflict, Education, Health, and Inequalities*). These consultations engaged with a broad range of stakeholders to extract their views on what should succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Post-2015. We worked with our co-lead colleagues to generate widespread participation among civil society, academia, business and youth groups, stimulating people's interest in debating water issues and urging them to contribute their views, experiences and insights into the water challenges they face. We hope this exercise, which is part of

an ongoing process, has helped to build consensus around the need to include water in the future development framework.

How do you think the Post-2015 framework will contribute to the greater goal of enhancing sustainable development and poverty reduction?

The MDGs, have been – and remain – vital instruments by which to focus on key global development challenges, including the targets on water and sanitation. Critically, the MDGs created measurable goals, which stimulated accountability at local, national and global levels. The new Post-2015 agenda must build on the undoubted strengths of the MDGs while also addressing their unfinished business: 783 million people remain without access to safe water and some 2.5 billion people are still without improved sanitation, almost three-quarters of

whom live in rural areas. This must change.

The implementation of actions under the water and sanitation targets failed to recognise links to the wider water agenda. This includes issues such as water resources management, wastewater management and water quality, all of which are crucial in the provision of sustainable access to safe water. The new development agenda must be increasingly inclusive, transparent and based on true, vigorous consultation which embraces “bottom up” processes. To become truly global, the Post-2015 agenda must take into consideration thinking and ideas from civil society, governments, UN, the private sector, academia and citizens themselves.

This is why the Thematic Consultation on Water has been such an important step towards creating an inclusive Post-2015 development framework for the future.

What do you hope to see achieved by the Post-2015 framework?

It took some time to overcome previous global inertia but the MDGs created a momentum for change which must be retained and capitalised upon after their expiry. Even though water and sanitation were identified as targets under the environmental sustainability goal, they were treated as if they were separate goals. This perspective helped significantly on the road to success in delivery but it failed in parallel to connect with the wider water agenda. Consequently, this time, a broader, integrated and human centred water goal is required.

What are the primary challenges that need to be overcome to get there?

Development is complicated and I don't believe in silver bullets. Unfortunately there isn't a simple answer. However, I do believe that we need more buy in from all stakeholders and we need greater political will. We also need to build and develop partnerships and facilitate the wider recognition of the cross cutting nature of water. When we address water



PMENT AGENDA

“It is definitely a preference to have a single water goal with targets and indicators for water, sanitation and hygiene, water resources management and wastewater management”



Photo: Youth Parliament for Water



As part of the Post-2015 UN Thematic Consultation on Water, the World Youth Parliament for Water facilitated a youth sub-consultation over social media. Mr. Bart Davos, President of the Youth Parliament for Water, reflects to *Stockholm Water Front* on the Post-2015 Consultation on Water and explains why we must be ambitious if we are to protect the life of future generations.

“What can be measured and communicated generally tends to get done”

issues, we reach far into several other development sectors. Demonstrating evidence on key development issues such as reduced stunting in children and increased child survival from investing in water and sanitation, as well as the link to economic development from investing in water and sanitation are also key challenges to work on.

Are there any issues that you think still need to gain greater priority within the current discourse on Post-2015 framework?

Working for a development agency and as a development partner I constantly advocate for the poor, marginalised, and those who are not direct beneficiaries of (or immediately reached by) economic development in the first place. As previously mentioned, several key global challenges such as economic development, peace and security, human rights and inequalities between rich and poor and urban and rural area were in-

sufficiently addressed by the MDGs. The targets for water and sanitation were constructed in such a way that they were achievable without really addressing the needs of the poorest and most disadvantaged people. This meant that Africa is still far behind other regions. The Post-2015 development framework should aim at universality and ensure that no one is left behind.

Do you think that a specific goal for water is needed, and if so, what should it include?

Definitely. A stand-alone water goal with targets and indicators representing the three linked key areas; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Water Resources Management and Wastewater Management is preferable. The MDGs demonstrated that clear water targets under a different goal can also deliver good results, however I fear that this approach for the future would mean that wider understandings of the water

sector would become fragmented and we could lose the vital integrated ground we have worked towards for so long.

What do you see as the key successes and lessons learned from the formation and execution of the MDGs that can be applied in the Post-2015 framework?

Continued focus on poverty reduction and getting the basics right. We should define easily communicable goals and targets which can be monitored and measured transparently. What can be measured and communicated generally tends to get done.

I believe that today there is a real momentum: a new framework with a broad based ownership is well placed to deliver on the new Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals rapidly. The structural causes of poverty, inequality and exclusion, together with environmental sustainability should remain in focus moving forward. ■

What do you hope to see achieved by the Post-2015 framework?

For me, the framework has a very important symbolic value, because it demonstrates that nations all across the world are willing to unite and join forces to work for sustainable development and poverty reduction. But it has to ensure that all nations take joint actions that respond to the concrete needs of people and of future generations. The framework should not only exist to ensure development and welfare in the next few decades, it should be a policy framework that takes into account the long term needs of future generations.

My hope is that the different goals will lead to a broad and comprehensive approach on sustainable development that is recognised and actively supported not only by policy makers, but also by business actors, other stakeholders and citizens.

What are the primary challenges that need to be overcome to get there?

In my opinion, we need much more concrete measures and concrete indicators coupled with a more ambitious attitude. Post-2015 is not about punishing ourselves with obligations and rules: it is about taking up the challenge to realise welfare for as many citizens as possible, and to protect the life of young and future generations.

Do you think that a specific goal for water is needed, and if so, what should it include?

I'm definitely convinced of the importance of having water as a major element in the Post-2015 framework. I think that universal access to drinking water and to sanitation, and improved efforts on wastewater treatment are the most essential keys to guarantee the welfare of future generations. Additionally, developing more and enhancing existing water management mechanisms at river basin levels merits a place in the framework. ■

EXPLORING WATER COOPERATION ON WORLD WATER DAY

TEXT Ms. Lovisa Selander, Communications Manager, SIWI

PHOTO Mr. Peter Tvärberg, IT Officer, SIWI

The UN World Water Day on March 22 has become an important moment for actors around the world to advocate the sustainable management of freshwater resources. This year, hundreds of events were held worldwide to raise awareness on water issues. Here in Stockholm, the Swedish Water House at SIWI marked the occasion with a seminar that brought together the leading minds and organisations working with water in Sweden, including the Global Water Partnership, FAO Nordic office, UNDP Sweden, UNEP Sweden, Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and Water Aid.



Hon. Gunilla Carlsson,
Sweden's Minister for International
Development Cooperation

At the event, speakers from government, private sector and NGOs provided different perspectives and insights on the theme of water cooperation. Their overarching message was clear: in order to achieve sustainable water governance, actors in the public sphere, civil society and private sector will need to collaborate more, and do so more effectively. They also advocated for better dialogue across sectors, particularly on water, energy and food.

So how can this be done? Here are five factors for success that were stressed by the speakers from the World Water Day event:

1. Political support for innovation and entrepreneurship can advance development

The importance of pairing political measures with innovation and entrepreneurship was highlighted by Hon. Gunilla Carlsson, Sweden's Minister for International Development Cooperation. Marie Ottosson from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency further explained how Sweden now increasingly works with private actors to strengthen capacities and stimulate dialogue with public authorities, and offers more funding mechanisms for innovation.

2. Engage the financial sector to protect against risks and contribute to sustainable resource use and management

As Sasja Beslik, head of responsible investment at Nordea bank explained, water scarcity is a financial risk. However, very few companies take water and other natural resources into account when making decisions

on investment. The financial sector is a critical partner to engage in dialogue on water issues, both to protect the sustainability of their investments as well as to mobilise capital and know how to stimulate development.

3. Educate everyone, from supplier to consumer to create a water wiser value chain

Within the private sector and among individuals, education on water is needed for them to play a greater role in sustainable water management and development. Renée Andersson of Indiska spoke of how this is evident in the work that her company, Indiska, is now doing together with partners to improve water and chemical management in their supply chain. Gathering representatives from the Indian government, researchers, and chemical experts they have embarked on a learning process for cleaner textile production, hoping to create something that can be built upon for years to come.

4. Invest long term in collaborative management of river basins and it should pay off

As Steven Downey, Head of Communications at the Global Water Partnership, explained, collaborative processes are complex and can take time – the time line from setting up a stakeholder forum to start developing an IWRM plan in a basin to eventually implementing it can in some cases take as long as a decade. But there are many indicators to show that, despite the complexities and occasionally slow progress, this process pays off on the long term. This can be seen in Sweden, where collaborative management

of the 800 kilometer long Emån river has created an effective dialogue between the local authorities, regional government, land owners, local actors and the general public on how to best govern the catchment. Ilan Leshem of Emånförbundet confirmed that today Emån exports this knowledge both in Sweden and internationally, proving both the high value of and demand for capacity in collaborative management at the basin level.

5. Make collaboration part of your mandate

At the seminar, SIWI Deputy Director Per Bertilsson presented SIWI's vision to serve as a platform for dialogue on water and bring together actors across sectors and regions. In SIWI's strategy over the next five years, one of the ways we now measure the organisations success is by evaluating our contributions to link actors across sectors in effective partnerships.

Collaboration – core to finding solutions

Breaking silos between sectors isn't easy: it requires intensive learning of new knowledge and different ways of working. It also requires that time and resources are allocated to activities that are often outside of an organisation's main operations. Collaboration lies at the core of finding solutions to water challenges. Placing it as a core value of your organisation and demonstrating clear commitment from leadership will help motivate that adequate resources, attention and time are dedicated to it. Now during the International Year of Water Cooperation is the best time to start. ■

TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND THE 2013 WORLD WATER WEEK IN STO

TEXT Ms. Sanna Gustafsson, Communications Officer, SIWI

PHOTO Mr. Mikael Ullén

With the world population expected to have grown to over 9 billion people by 2050, all depending on the same finite and vulnerable water resource as today, our interdependence is growing every day. We all need to work together to ensure a future where water is used wisely. That is why the 2013 World Water Week, set to take place in Stockholm September 1-6, will focus on "Water Cooperation – Building Partnerships". Thousands of participants are anticipated to congregate in the Swedish capital – here are ten reasons why you should join them this summer:

1. INSPIRATION, IDEAS AND INFLUENCE

As government representatives, civic society organisations, the private sector, academia and practitioners assemble at the World Water Week, various views, experiences and practices on water are shared. In Stockholm, you will find the leading experts and access influential decision-makers across sectors.

2. A CHANCE TO GET SOCIAL WITH YOUR NETWORK

With 2,500 participants and 260 convening organisations from over 130 countries around the world, the week offers you infinite occasions to find collaborative opportunities with new people, and just as importantly to meet face to face with colleagues around the world. With the Week's focus on cooperation and partnerships, be ready to leave Stockholm with new friendships to build on for the coming years.

3. THOUGHT-PROVOKING DISCUSSIONS

The Opening Plenary is the starting point for an intense week of discussions that take place over the course of 100 sessions led

by the leading minds in the field. Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, will set the scene with a keynote speech, which will be followed by presentations from global leaders who will elaborate on partnership building and implementation.

4. PLATFORMS FOR PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

A range of new and innovative private sector initiatives on water prove that businesses increasingly regard water as a critical issue. At the Week, the leaders from government, civil society and business will critically discuss how to make public private partnerships more effective and forge concrete actions for the coming year.

5. GAIN REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Join the regional focus day to zoom in on specific regional water challenges in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. For the first time, this year's World Water Week will also have a focus on the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA). To increase the cooperation between regions SIWI is also having an inter-regional dialogue.

6. CULTIVATE YOUNG TALENT

This year, an entire day of activities will be specifically focused on young professionals; including a seminar, an intergenerational dialogue, as well as opportunities for career coaching by water professionals. The entire Week offers a chance to find bright minds, young and less young, that will spark innovations in water.

7. FIND THE FOREFRONT OF RESEARCH

The workshops are the Week's scientific backbone and enable individuals from around the globe to present their findings related to the overall theme. Join the workshops to learn how the latest knowledge from science can be applied into practical solutions for policy and practice.

8. FIRST-HAND LEARNING ON FIELD VISITS

While at the World Water Week, take the opportunity to get out and explore the beautiful city of Stockholm. Discover the ecosystems of Stockholm by boat, see local examples of sustainable urban development, and learn more about the linkages between agriculture and sanitation in practice.

9. EXCITING SOCIAL EVENTS

The social events are excellent occasions to mix business with pleasure, where you can network with fellow participants in a relaxed atmosphere. The City of Stockholm Welcome Reception will be held at the renowned Stockholm City Hall, the annual Dinner and Dance will take place at popular venue Hamburger Börs, and new for 2013 is a mingle evening at the Nobel Museum.



NEWS FROM COLLABORATORS

GWP RELEASES NEW PUBLICATION ON WATER COOPERATION

Global Water Partnership (GWP) has launched a new publication, *Water: Catalyst for Cooperation*, which profiles 15 water cooperation initiatives developed by GWP and its Regional and Country Water Partnerships across the world.

► **Download it at www.gwp.org/Global/Events/Water%20Cooperation%202013/Water%20Cooperation%20booklet_FINAL.pdf**



CKHOLM



in Stockholm,
September 1-6, 2013
WORLD WATER WEEK

10. PROMINENT PRIZES

To honour actors that bring solutions to the world's water challenges, the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize, Stockholm Junior Water Prize and Stockholm Industry Water Award are all bestowed at extraordinary award ceremonies during the week. Make sure not to miss them! ■

Photo: UN Water



UN-WATER 'WATER FOR LIFE' BEST PRACTICES AWARD GOES TO JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The city of Kumamoto, Japan received the UN-Water 'Water for Life' Award for 'best water management practice' in recognition of its exemplary work to sustain and protect its groundwater. A second award for 'best participatory, communication, awareness-raising and education practice' was presented to the national "Water and sanitation for all" project from the Republic of Moldova. The prizes were presented during the official ceremony of 2013 World Water Day in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Photo: UN Water



► **Read more at www.unwater.org/water-cooperation-2013/media-corner/news/2013-best-practices-award/en**

NEW WBCSD PUBLICATION HELPS BUSINESS MEASURE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

The WBCSD's new publication "Measuring socio-economic impact: A guide for business" is intended to help companies navigate the complex landscape of socio-economic impact measurement, and select the options that work best for their business.

► **Download it at www.wbcd.org/impact.aspx**



OPENING SPEAKERS INCLUDE

- Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Mr. Sten Nordin, Mayor of Stockholm
- Dr. Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, Chair, GWP
- Mr. Peter Bakker, President, WBCSD
- Ms. Yolanda Kakabadse, President WWF International
- Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
- Mr. Torgny Holmgren, Executive Director, SIWI

THE 2013 WORLD WATER WEEK: KEY COLLABORATING PARTNERS

- Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

THE 2013 WORLD WATER WEEK IS SUPPORTED BY

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**WORLD
WATER
WEEK**
in Stockholm,
September 1-6, 2013

**EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
UNTIL JUNE 30**

**EXPLORING
THE POWER OF
COOPERATION**

Bringing together key decision-makers, experts and practitioners from diverse sectors and around the globe, the World Water Week in Stockholm is influencing the decisions on investments and policy that will shape our future.

Join more than 260 convening organisations and 2,500 delegates from 130 countries as we explore how to best build the partnerships and collective strategies that will lead us to a water wise future.

Organised by Key collaborating partners



www.worldwaterweek.org

