

LeidenASA-Africa 2020

Workshop: The Nile: Inclusion and Exclusion over a trans-boundary resource

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Although the Nile is an indispensable resource for the people, the Nile governance has not been designed and implemented conveniently on national and regional levels. Inside national territories, different challenges impede the livelihood of populations such as the frequency of droughts, floods, deforestation, land degradation and water pollution. While on transnational level, the disagreement about the Nile waters allocation causes a lack of trust and confrontations mainly between the upstream and downstream countries.

Accordingly, governing the Nile as a national policy or a regional strategy entails a multilayer process that comprises norms, rules and actors. In this regard, the equity of distribution, conservation, water rights are examples of norms and values that are reflected in the administrative rules of managing water services inside the country or in the regional basin organization. These norms and rules are affected by the interactions among various stakeholders starting from the grassroots (farmers, pastoralists, fishermen), then the middle actors such as local business, civil society organizations, media and then reaching the powerful actors mainly policy makers and multinational corporations.

This proposed workshop aims to unpack these layers of the Nile governance on national and transnational levels through emphasizing on the dimension of water and land acquisition in the riparian countries.

Furthermore, the workshop aims to induce policy recommendations according to the analysis of actors' interests and the applied rules regarding water and lands in the Nile basin.

Therefore, the workshop will apply 'scenario development process' in order to analyze the contextual factors and driving forces. Then the participants will develop scenario logic and storyline of land and water acquisition in the Nile. After that the participants will share reflections of the outcomes to conclude one or two prospective future scenarios.

The workshop will be conducted in two days and the scenario development process will include lectures on the status of land and water acquisitions in the Nile basin and the scenario methodology. Additionally, the organizers will attempt to invite policy makers from the Nile basin and international organizations in the closing session to discuss the scenarios with them.