

CALL FOR ABSTRACT TO THE WORKSHOP

The Nile: Inclusion and Exclusion over a Trans-boundary Resource (water and land acquisition)

20 & 21 February 2020 | Leiden University (Netherlands)



Universiteit
Leiden



Although the Nile is an indispensable resource for the people, its 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 droughts, floods, deforestation, land degradation and water pollution. But on transnational level, the disagreement about the Nile waters allocation causes a lack of trust and confrontations mainly between the upstream and downstream countries. Land and water acquisition (grabbing) are contributing to these tensions. Therefore there is a need for equitable and sustainable water policies in the Nile.

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, and 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 politicians, policy makers and multinational corporations. These stakeholders attempt to distribute – sometimes control- water resources for their own benefits without considering the whole basin ecosystems and sustainability.

In this workshop, we aim to unpack these layers of the Nile governance on national and transnational levels through emphasizing on the dimension of water and land acquisition “grabbing” in the riparian countries

In this two-days workshop we will use a ‘scenario development process’ to explore future paths where the Nile waters could fulfill social consideration, development policies and environmental justice within the complexity of transboundary governance.



Therefore, the participants will develop scenarios of water and land acquisition in the Nile. Using a “backcasting’ approach we will design policies and strategies for Nile basin governance while investigating the context, internal factors, and externalities that influence all possible future scenarios. After that, the participants will share the reflections of preferable or avoidable scenarios with a panel of development actors in the Nile. The outcome of the process and discussion is planned to be disseminated through academic blogs on short term and to convert to a journal paper.



The scenarios development is a co-learning process where participants communicate and share their observation from the field and their knowledge. Therefore, we invite researchers, who work on the Nile tributaries in any of the riparian countries, to submit an **abstract** (300-500 words) annotating one or two internal factor(s) or external driver(s) that affect water and land acquisition along the Nile river.

Please email your abstract to the organizing committee at nile4africa2020@gmail.com, No later than **Sunday 15 December 2019**.

Abstracts may be in word or Pdf formats with the following information: title, author(s), affiliation and email.

The accepted participant has to commit to attend the two days of the workshop because the scenario building is a process that has to be completed to get outcomes. There are limited 'fund' for participants outside the Netherlands, please indicate whether you need reimbursement of your travel expenses in your abstract. Participants from Netherlands are expected to cover their travel expenses from and to Leiden. The workshop will cover lunch and coffee breaks in the two days.

In addition, the workshop time is scheduled to correspond with the Nile day when the Nile basin countries signed the agreement of establishing the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) in 22th Feb 1999. Therefore, The participants are invited to the event 'The Nile Pop" at Rijksmuseum van Oudheden on Friday 21 Feb after the workshop. The event is organized by IHE-Delft, Stichting Zenobia and Rijksmuseum van Oudheden with the support of Global Partnership for Water and Development funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

