

- Summary
- Where are we – lessons learned
- Challenges
- Risks
- Way forward

Summary of workshop - General

- **No full water sharing mechanisms are in place in any of the basins at transboundary level**
- **Cooperation frameworks exist or are in progress - but equitable distribution and minimum flows remain major challenges**
- **Benefits of transboundary water cooperation are already shared among riparians in terms of avoided conflicts and unwanted developments**
- **Benefit and cost sharing is emerging as a "new" concept in basin cooperation - with the view to increase benefits to riparian countries also going beyond the river**

Where are we – lessons learned

All basins have taken some steps in translating the concepts into practice through:

- i) Guidelines for RBOs to promote benefit sharing (SADC)**
- ii) Basin Development Plan using a Development Space concept (Mekong)**
- iii) Identification of Transboundary Water Opportunities to be translated into concrete “positive sum” projects (Nile)**

Challenges

Challenges remain:

- i) Best practice approaches to benefit identification and quantification**
- ii) benefit and cost sharing arrangements**
- iii) involving stakeholders in engaging in information sharing and in decision making on actual sharing**
- iv) transparency on processes in benefit sharing.**

Risks

- **Keeping benefit sharing dialogue as a purely technocratic planning exercise**
- **The absence of benefit sharing arrangements may weaken transboundary decision making**
- **Leaving replacement costs, opportunity costs and implementation costs out of the equation**

Way forward

- **Develop policy and legal frameworks at national levels to implement benefit and cost sharing arrangements**
- **Explore and benefit from links between benefit and cost sharing at local, national and transboundary levels**
- **Acknowledge national governance, cultural, and language differences in transboundary benefit sharing arrangement**
- **Determine who are the beneficiaries and those adversely affected at all levels**

Way forward

- **Maintain the triple bottom line (economic, social, environmental) in benefit sharing arrangements**
- **Engaging private sector and civil society can lead to the identification of additional benefits and benefit and cost sharing arrangements at an overall basin level**
- **A need to be clear on the terminology and substance of benefit and cost sharing such as:**
 - i) difference between compensation, revenue sharing and benefit sharing**
 - ii) gross and net benefits, phases of cost-benefit sharing in construction and operation phases**
 - iii) benefits "to", "from", "because of" and beyond" the river**

Thank you!

Suggestions for the next workshop

- **Basin development - the role of private sector and NGO's/Civil society**
- **Basin development- connecting transboundary to national visions/strategies/plans**
- **Basin development- maintaining ecosystems and the "voice" of ecosystems**
- **To be hosted by SADC and held in Southern Africa**