



# LESSONS FROM HYDRODIPLOMACY

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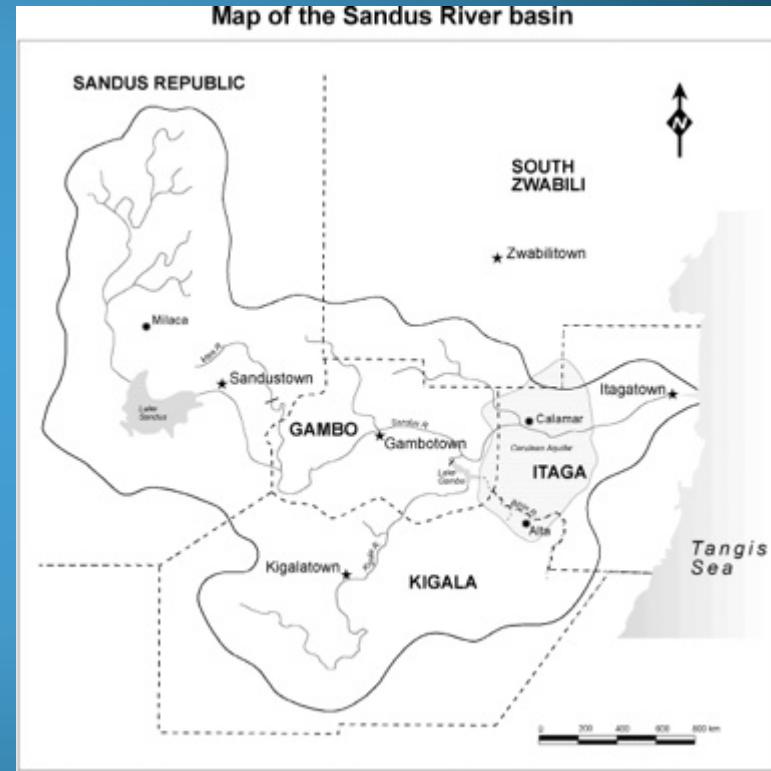
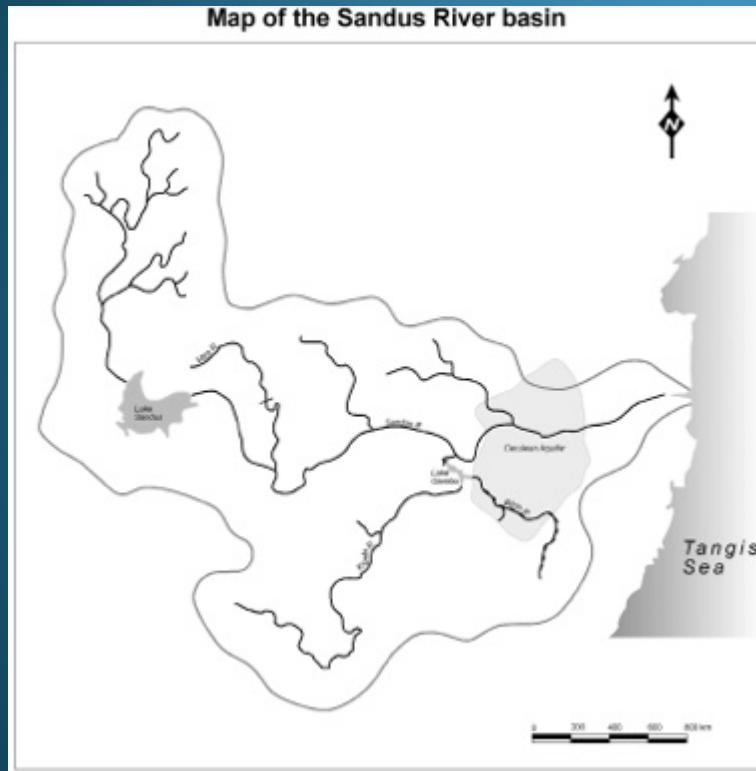


Deltares



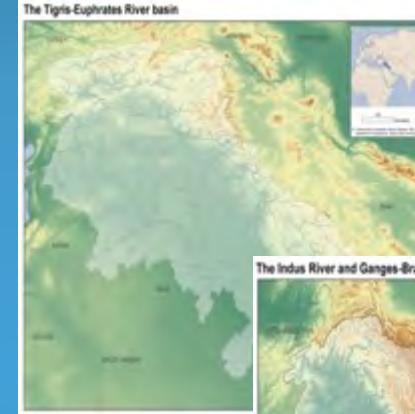
Excerpts from slides prepared for Water, Peace and Security tailor-made capacity development activities in Iraq. Please attribute authors when using materials.

# What *is* Water Conflict Management & Transformation??



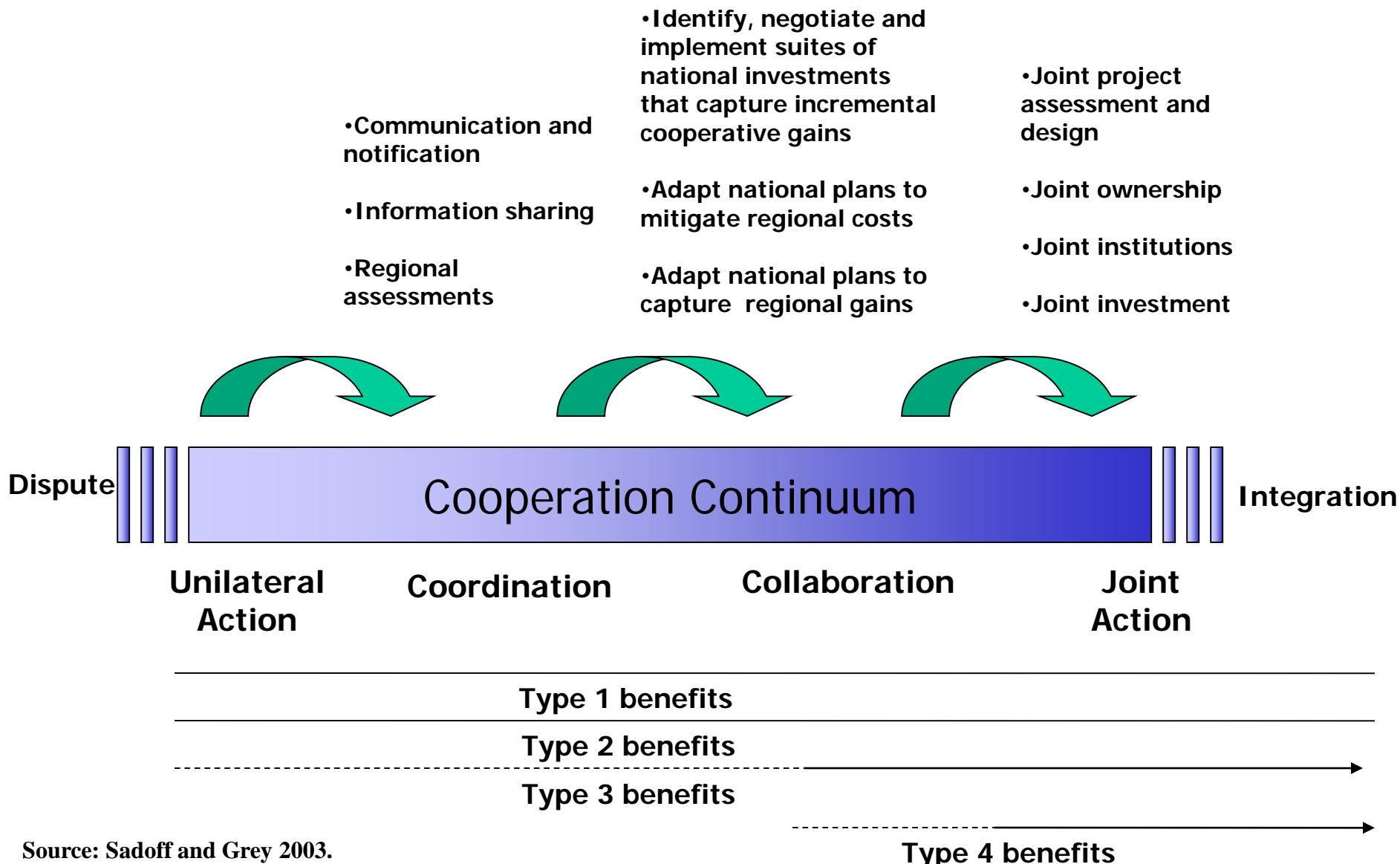
What changes when a border is present?  
What capacity do we need to address the change?

# What is Water Conflict Management & Transformation??



What changes when a border is present?  
What capacity do we need to address the change?

# Types of Cooperation – a Cooperation Continuum



# If cooperation brings so many benefits, why isn't there more of it ?



310 IRBs in the world.

> 60% of have no treaty provisions covering them.



Few basin-wide agreements.

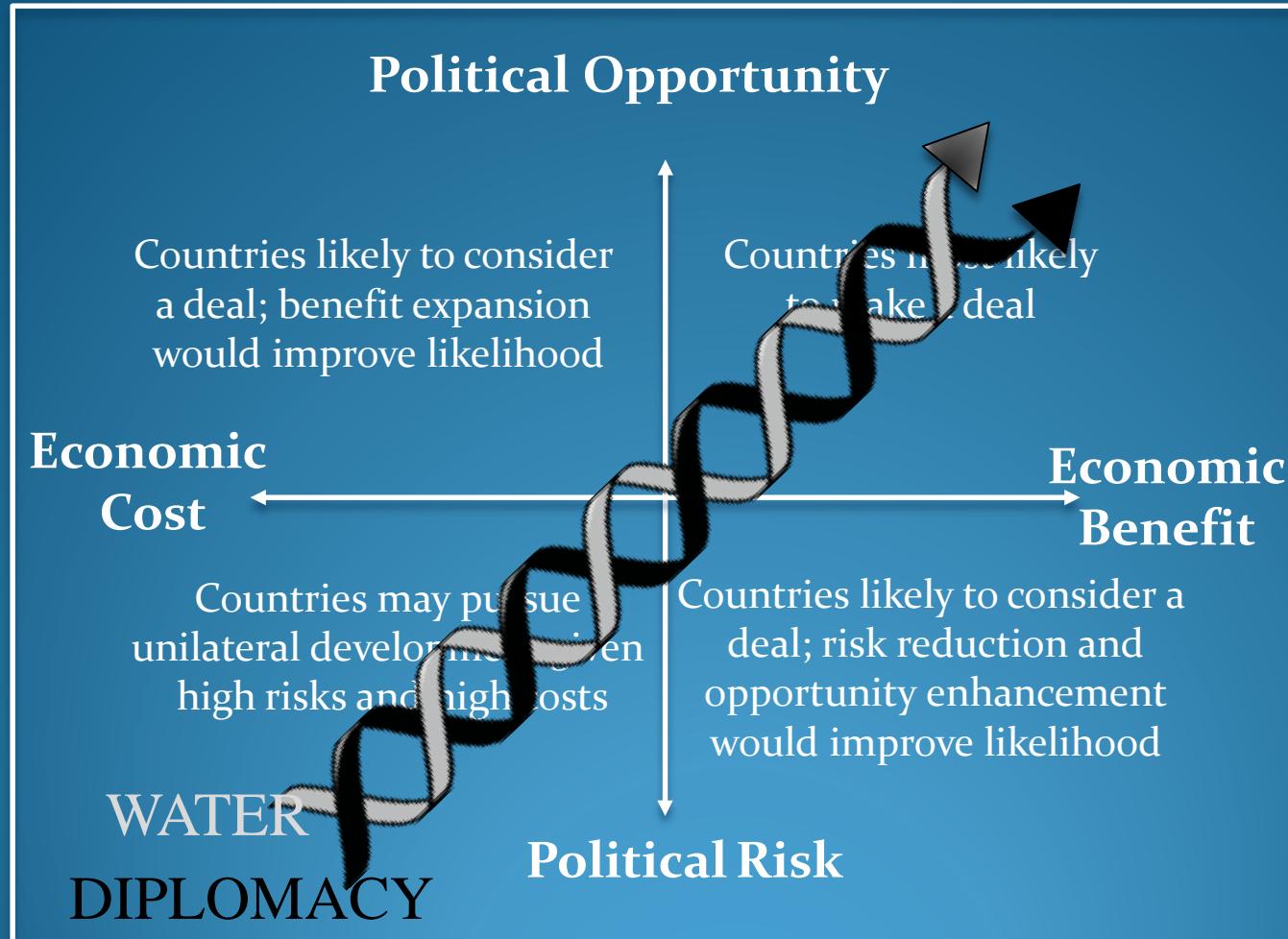
Mostly bilateral.



EXIT

# Framework for Analysis

## Benefits, Risks, and Opportunities



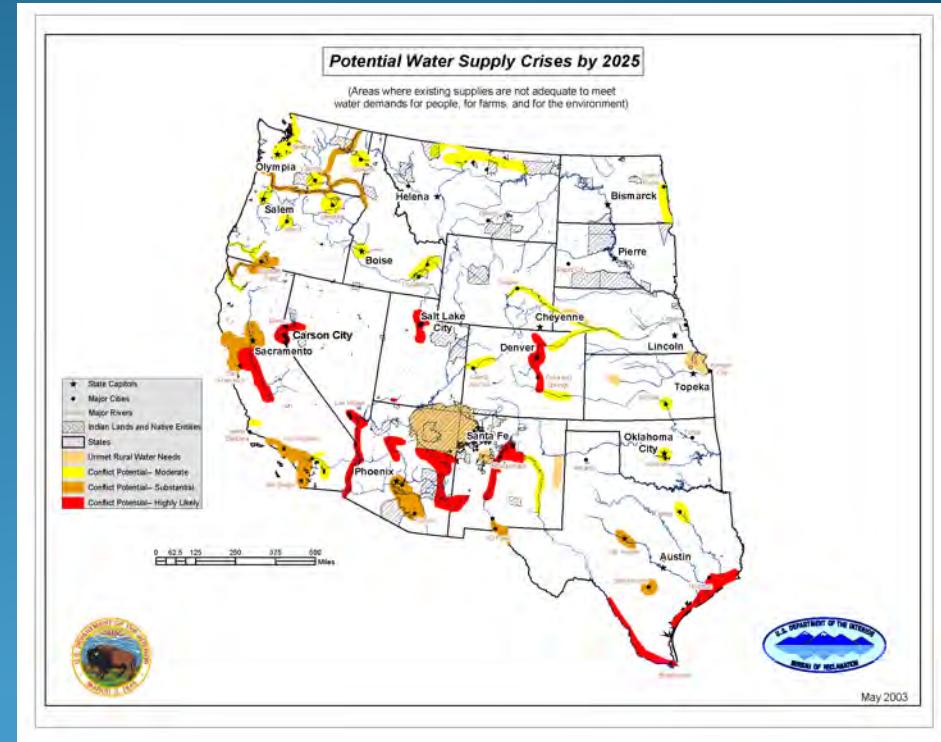
Source: Subramanian, Brown & Wolf 2013

# Lesson 1:

“Process is everything.”

# Management & Conflict Management

- Managers reported that they routinely spent 50-100% of their time managing water conflict
- The higher the management level, the more time was spent in managing conflict
- Training across levels was sporadic
- Is conflict rewarded?



# Who's thinking about this?

## RECLAMATION *Managing Water in the West*

**Sharing Water, Building Relations:  
Managing and Transforming  
Water Conflict in the US West**

### Instructor Manual



The cover features the logos of USAID, the World Bank, and the Mekong River Commission. The title "SHARING WATER, SHARING BENEFITS: WORKING TOWARDS EFFECTIVE TRANBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT" is prominently displayed, along with "A GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL SKILLS-BUILDING WORKBOOK" and "Compiled and edited by Prof. Aaron T. Wolf". Below the title is a map of the Mekong River basin showing major tributaries like the Salween, Irawaddy, and Mekong rivers, with labels for LAMPHUN, CHIANG RAI, CHIANG MAI, KANCHANABURI, KALAYA, KIGALA, and TAZA. At the bottom, it says "International Hydrological Programme: Division of Water Sciences".



Documentation  
Training of Trainers on  
Transboundary Cooperation and Hydropower  
Development

Vientiane, Laos, 22-24 July 2014

Delft University of Technology



Military Engineering Centre of Expertise

### Water Management as a Peace Mechanism

An integrated and comprehensive new policy framework for the application of water management in stabilisation operations

### RESEARCH SUMMARY



Effective Negotiation for  
Transboundary Waters:  
A Skills Building Course

October 2015

Prepared for the MRC by:

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Dr. Todd Jones (Oregon State University)

Report Aanpassen (NECODEC) – The Center for People and Forests

April 2014

## Lesson 2:

“The process is not rational.”

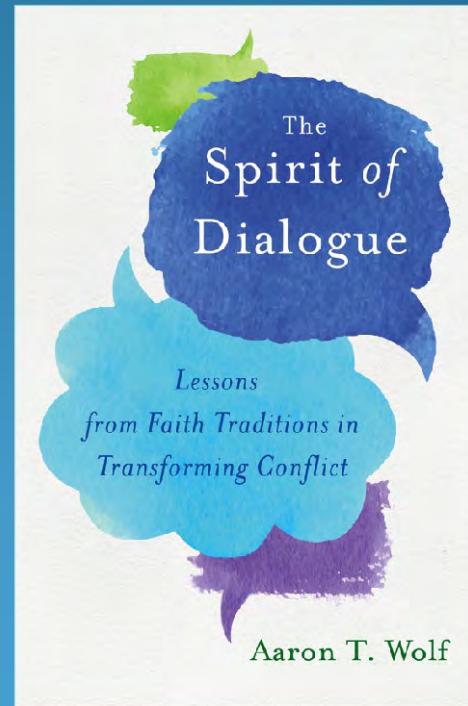
# GETTING TO “YES”

- Separate the PEOPLE from the problem
- Focus on INTERESTS, not positions
- Invent OPTIONS for mutual gain
- Insist on Objective CRITERIA

Source: Fisher R. and W. Ury. GETTING TO YES. NY: Penguin, 1981.

# PROCESS TECHNIQUES

- SEATING ARRANGEMENT
- SHARED VISION EXERCISES
- VENTING
- ACTIVE & TRANSFORMATIVE LISTENING
  - Repeat main points
  - "I" not "you"
  - Future not history
- LETTING GO OF OWNERSHIP
- BREAKS FOR CONNECTING



# Sulha: Reconciliation

- From *musalah*, reconciliation: hostilities ended, honor re-established, and peace restored in the community.
- Two basic elements: rights and honor.
- *Tarrahdhin*: “Resolution of a conflict that involves no humiliation.”



Source: Jabbour, Elias. *Sulha: Palestinian Traditional Peacemaking Process*. Montreat, NC: House of Hope Pub, 1993.

# Kampung Spirit: Singapore Kindness Movement

- Spirit of neighborliness of village life
- Being revived for vertical living
- Community Mediation Centre – 70% of cases resolved
- Community Disputes Resolution Tribunals, since Oct. 2015



## Lesson 3:

“If you get stuck on a problem,  
reframe for inclusion.”





## Lesson 4:

“If you get stuck on a problem,  
make it bigger.”

Elevating the conversation

- Hydromet (1961), entirely technical, eventually led to:
- Undugu (1983), and,
- Tecconile (1993) – annual academic meeting, and finally to:
- Nile Basin Initiative



## **Annex on Article 14(b) to be resolved by the Nile River Basin Commission within six months of its establishment**

At the end of the negotiations, no consensus was reached on Article 14(b) which reads as follows: *not to significantly affect the water security of any other Nile Basin State*, all countries agreed to this proposal except Egypt and Sudan.

Egypt proposed that Article 14(b) should be replaced by the following wording:

*(b) not to adversely affect the water security and current uses and rights of any other Nile Basin State.*



Eritrea

Khartoum  
Omdurman

Sudan

Kassala

Asmara

Mekele

Gonder

Lake Tana  
Bahir Dar

Roseries Dam  
and reservoir

Abay River (Blue Nile)

GERD Project Site and  
Projected Reservoir Extent

Malakal

Ethiopia

Addis Ababa

Djibouti

Dire Dawa

Sanaa

Lake  
Tana

Taizz

Aden

Assab

Djibouti

Berbera

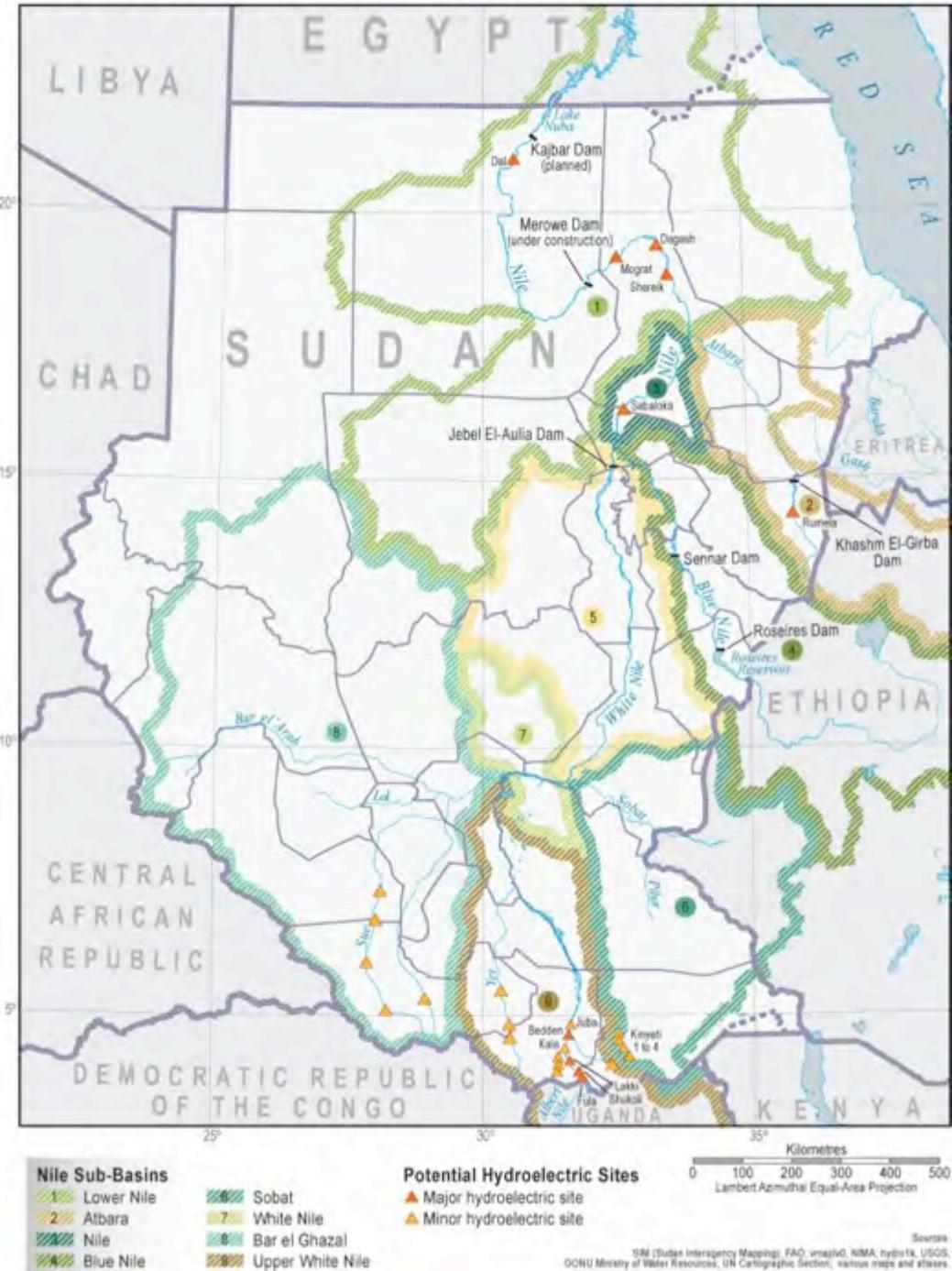
Hargeysa

Somalia

# Dams and Hydroelectric Schemes

Source: UNEP/DEWA/GRID-Europe 2006

## Nile Sub-Basins, Dams and Hydroelectric Schemes



# Regional Power Development Strategy

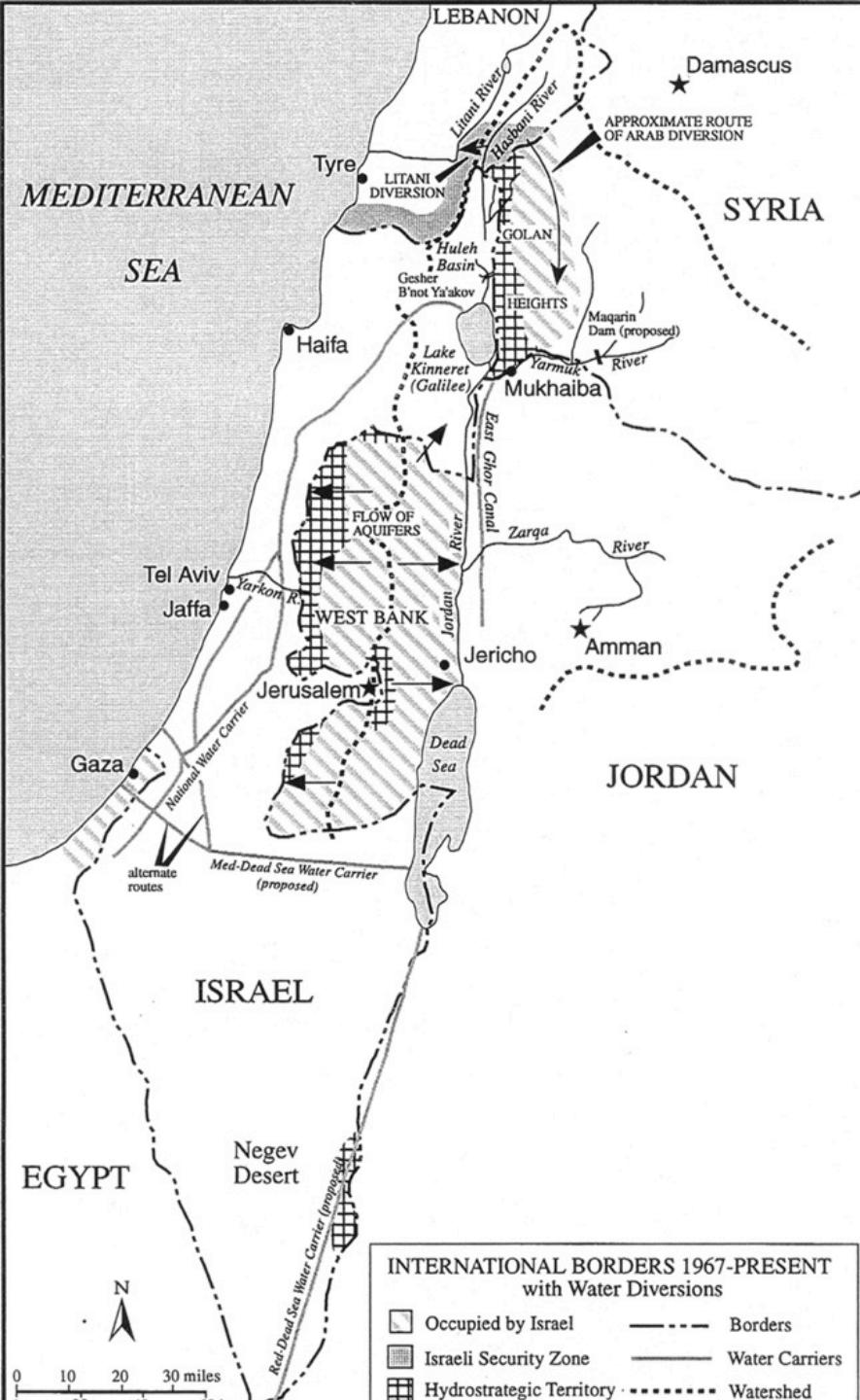
Source: NBI RPTP 2011



# Lesson 5:

“If you get stuck on a problem, make it smaller.”

Nuancing the conversation



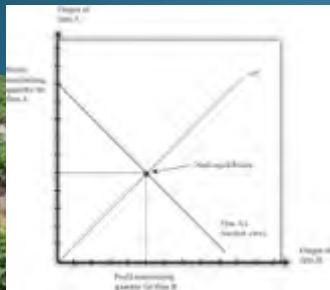




# Lesson 6:

“The issue is never the issue.”

# Four Worlds in Water:



Mental



Physical

Spiritual



Emotional



# Lessons from Negotiations: Incorporate local values early and often



The primary objective of the Treaty should be to *maximize benefits* to both countries through the coordination of planning and operations.

*Columbia River Treaty Review B.C. Decision – October 2013*

The Pacific Northwest recognizes the value of the Columbia River Treaty in facilitating shared water resource management in the Basin to *maximize benefits* to both the United States and Canada.

*U.S. Entity Regional Recommendation – December 2013*



Men

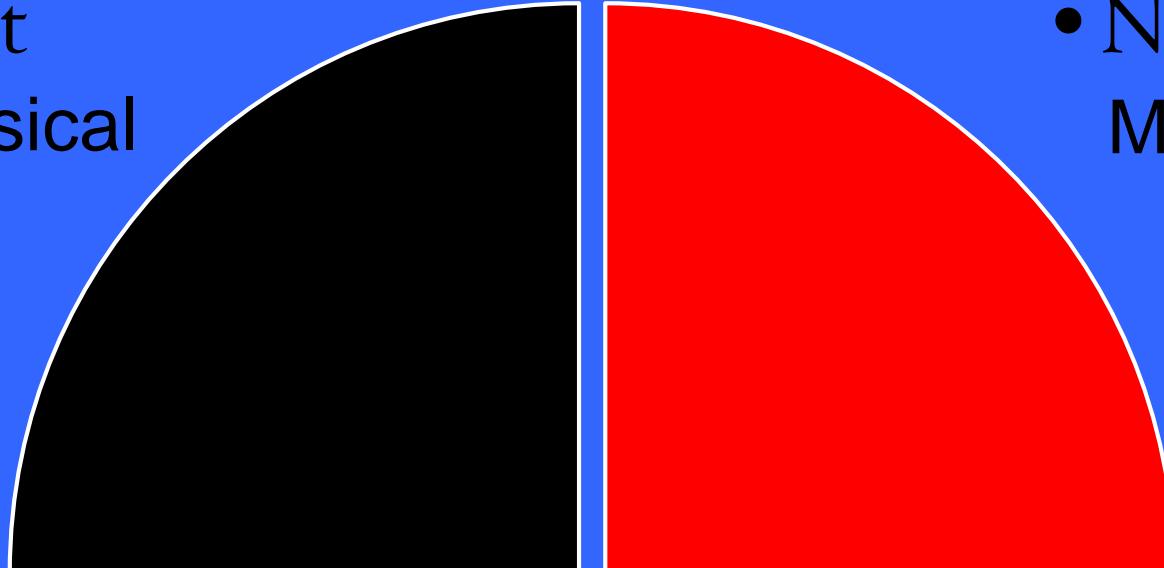
- West  
Physical

Father sky

Objective

- North  
Mental

Medicine Wheel from  
Shoshone-Bannock  
and Oglala Lakota  
Traditions



Source: Sammy  
Matsaw Jr. 2016

Women

- South  
Spiritual

Mother earth

- East  
Emotional  
Subjective

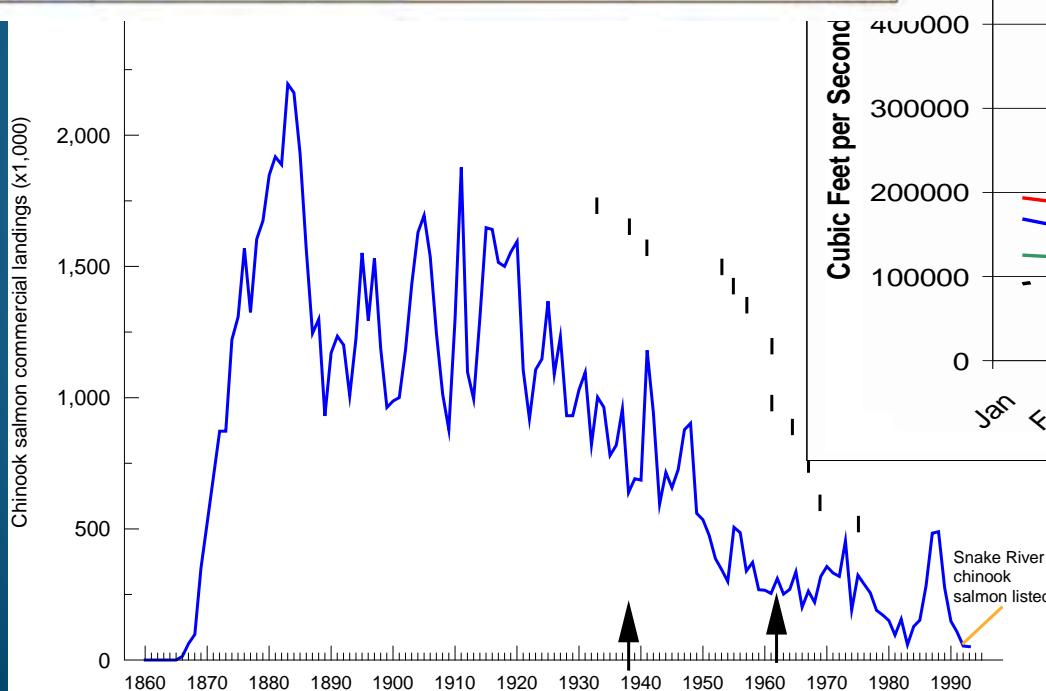
# “New” Directions - Spiritual Aspect of Water

- Whanganui River has legal personhood in NZ, must be treated as living entity; settlement gives standing
  - 2 guardians -- one from the Whanganui Iwi (Maori) trust and one from the crown
- Ganges and Yamuna Rivers in India also received personhood, citing NZ, with three guardians
- Implications for water diplomacy?

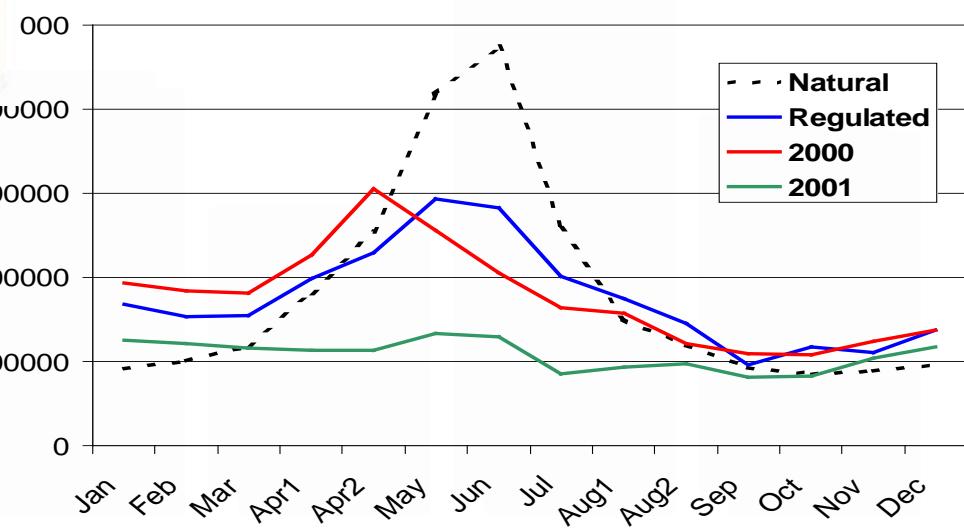
# LESSON 7:

## Don't forget the spirit – and fun! – of water: Elevating the conversation

## Universities Consortium for Columbia Basin Governance



2000 & 2001 Flows at The Dalles -- compared to average



Snake River  
chinook  
salmon listed



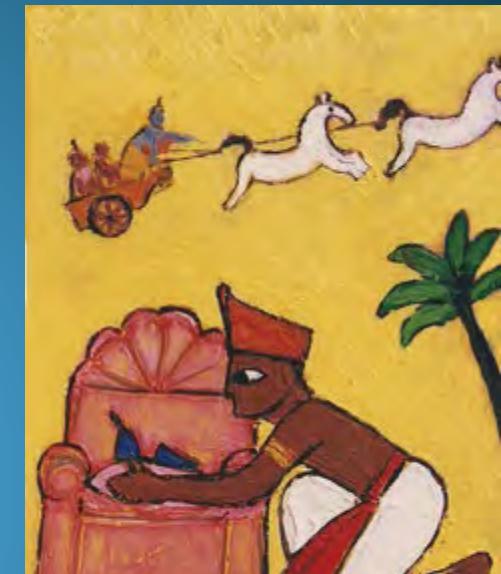
# River Festivals



# River Festivals



# Elevating the Conversation (cont.)



Egyptian Coptic Church tapped to play the role of mediator in Nile River dispute - Al-Monitor, The Pulse of the Middle East

AP2115, 8:20 P



Egyptian Coptic Church tapped to play the role of mediator in Nile River dispute



Coptic Pope Tawadros II (R), head of the Coptic Orthodox Church, shakes hands with former army chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi upon Sisi's arrival for a visit the night before Easter, in Cairo, April 19, 2014. Sisi was elected president a month later. (photo by REUTERS)

# New Directions: Spiritual Aspect of Water

All things in the natural world have *mauri* (life force) and *wairua* (a spiritual dimension). Respect for the spiritual integrity of the environment and the *atua* (God) that created it will ensure that the *taonga* (treasure) can be protected and passed on to succeeding generations.

*NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT  
for Freshwater Management 2014*



# Thank you!

