



Nile Basin Discourse Summit (NBDS)

November 29th -30th 2017

Entebbe - Uganda

Theme

Integration and Inclusion: New Ideas for collaboration in River Basins Management Policies and Practices

The Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) is a regional network of civil society organizations established in 2003 to strengthen civil society participation in Nile Basin developmental processes and programs. As a Network of Networks, NBD is composed of over 600 member organizations operating throughout the Basin, according to the NBD Stakeholder Mapping Report (2015). NBD's direct member organizations are National Discourse Forums (NDFs) which are themselves Networks of local (grassroots CBOs) and national NGOs/CSOs working on a range of issues relevant to Nile cooperation and development, including environmental conservation, agricultural production and markets, gender equity, livelihoods, poverty reduction, and others, as indicated in the organization's website, www.nilebasindiscourse.org. NBD envisions a Nile Basin in which there is sustainable social and economic development for all people of the Nile Basin, free of conflict, leading to achievement of justice, human rights, good governance, poverty reduction and protection of the environment, with a mission to ensure that a fully informed and basin-wide civil society develops and plays a key role in achieving the vision, through pro-active and critical influencing of projects, programs and policies of the Nile Basin Initiative and other development partners and processes.

After fifteen years on the ground, the NBD Network has evolved to a more dynamic role in Nile Basin development processes; and a partner for promoting Nile cooperation.

The Nile Riparian States face a number of challenges such as the weak Nile cooperation, gender imbalance, climate change, food crises, rapid population growth and urbanization, weak regional integration and slow transition into a green economy. Taking cognizance of these persisting challenges, the Nile Basin Discourse is planting and nurturing the idea of a Biennial collective discourse on emerging issues, best practices, experiences that could tone down challenges of a River Basin. Therefore, NBD is launching in 2017, the first of its kind, the Nile Basin Discourse Summit (NBDS) with the year's theme "*Integration and Inclusion: New Ideas for collaboration in River Basins Management Policies and Practices*". The objective is "*to inclusively discourse on emerging issues, practices and experiences of cooperation and development of River Basin countries.*" The NBDS is to be inclusive and involving all at regional and global. It is expected to discourse on challenges and opportunities, share experiences and best practices of cooperation and development investment arriving at constructive decisions for vertical information to policy making and the grassroots communities the locus of implementation. In addition, arrive at horizontal information on trans-boundary element.

The NBDS (2017) with the theme "*Integration and Inclusion: New Ideas for collaboration in River Basins Management Policies and Practices*" entails three sub-themes that lean on the pillars and strategic directions of empowerment through participation. It has three sub-themes calling for discussions on cooperation for sustainable development, knowledge exchange and water governance, and innovations. The Summit is to be held in November 29th - 30th 2017 at Entebbe - Uganda.

Sub-Themes

Nurturing Cooperation for Sustainable Development

Nurturing cooperation for sustainable development sub-theme opens dialogue on enhancement of the all-level, all-inclusive “hands-on” trans-boundary cooperation; collaborative assessment of solutions, experiences and best practices in a river basin; shared water for social and economic development; fast-tracking of actions towards the transformative agenda 2030/SDGs goals; etc.

Knowledge Exchange and Water Governance

Knowledge exchange and water governance sub-theme aims at exchange of ideas on the policy advocacy, accountability and partnerships in water governance; inclusivity and mainstreaming gender, young and special groups in a river basin; a discourse on climate change on poverty, the adaptation and climate risk management; efforts towards water, food and energy security; etc.

Capacity Building and Innovation

Capacity building and awareness raising sub-theme is a pointer to discussions on the knowledge, evidence-base for decision making, and data sharing approaches; systematic efforts to changing power relations; attitudes and beliefs to sharing resources, their costs and benefits inclusivity through learning; innovative ideas; outreach and media; etc.

Members

Burundi	National Discourse Forum
D.R. Congo	National Discourse Forum
Egypt	National Discourse Forum
Eritrea	National Discourse Forum
Ethiopia	National Discourse Forum
Kenya	National Discourse Forum
Rwanda	National Discourse Forum
South Sudan	National Discourse Forum
Sudan	National Discourse Forum
Tanzania	National Discourse Forum
Uganda	National Discourse Forum

Partners

The Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)
The Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO)
The Nile Equatorial Lakes Coordination Unit (NELCU)
The Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
The Global Water Partnership – Eastern Africa (GWP – EA)
The Women for Water Partnership – (WFWP)
The Climate is Water Group (#CIW)
The Butterfly Effect Group (BE)

Development Partners

Cooperation on International Waters Africa/World Bank (CIWA/WB)

Contacts

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