

# Presentation

Presentation from the 2009 World Water Week in Stockholm  
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**WORLD**  
in Stockholm,  
August 16–22, 2009 **WATER**  
**WEEK**



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# Lake Twinning

Strengthening Lake Management Systems -  
Through Twinning of African and North American  
Lake Management Commissions



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**GEF**

# GEF Project

Regional Dialogue and Twinning to  
Improve Transboundary Water Resources Governance  
in Africa  
2007-2009

# Overview of the GEF Project



## Multi-partner project:

- Sustainable uses of water resources at the transboundary and regional basin scales

## *Component 1:*

- *Exchanges of experience on legal, policy and management reforms in transboundary water resources management*

## *Component 2:*

- *Systems thinking approach to shared and transboundary water resources*

## *Component 3:*

- *Mechanisms for investment planning and financial sustainability*



# Overview of the GEF Project



- Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced understanding and capacity at regional scale
- Informing deliberations at WWF 2009 (Istanbul)
- Regional learning mechanisms institutionalized among African RBOs
- Clarifying perspectives and setting priorities on:
  - Groundwater and climate change
  - Lakes management and governance
- A framework for collaboration on great lakes systems through enhanced science and policy linkages
- Methodology for assessing benefit sharing options for investment
- Lessons on transition from donor support to self-sustaining regional water institutions transferred





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# Lake Twinning Project

Strengthening Lake Management Systems -  
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# Twinning

- Does not mean creating identical twins.
- It is learning from success and failure of other commissions.
- Sharing science and working on similar issues: invasive species, water quality, water quantity, impact of climate change
- How commissions work?



# Lake Twinning Objectives

- To **facilitate policy, legal and institutional reform** for transboundary waters management (*quantity and quality*) – through comparative analysis
- To **enhance regional and national knowledge and capacity for the management and planning** of shared water resource systems
- To **strengthen planning processes** in shared water resources management, facilitating self-sustaining regional water institutions in Africa



# Lake Twinning Partners

- **North America**
  - International Joint Commission (IJC)
  - Great Lake Fisheries Commission (GLFC)
- **Africa**
  - Lake Victoria Fisheries Commission (LVFC)
  - Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)
  - Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA)
- UNU-INWEH, UNDP, UNOPS
- McMaster University



# Project Benefits & Opportunities



- Africa
  - Opportunity to learn from the success and failures of the North American commissions
  - Opportunity for new African commissions to learn from previous African experiences in shared water management
- North America
  - Opportunity to compare and discuss shared challenges, like:
    - Mitigation of global climate change impacts on great lakes
    - Water quality issues, like reducing transport of pollutants and nutrient loading
    - Methods to restore native fish species
    - Strategies for community-based management



# Lake Twinning – Project Strategy

- Focus on the Commissions' common interests, challenges and experiences, through:
  - Sharing a comparative analysis of lake management, leading to a synoptic overview of related science
  - Developing a **framework** for collaboration on great lakes systems through enhanced science and policy linkages
  - Identifying approaches to effectively monitor and evaluate lake ecosystem health
  - Bridging to scientific information emerging from GLFC-funded workshops – leading to a synthesis report



# Project Workplan/Timeline

- Mar 2008 – Planning meeting between partners
  - Hamilton, Canada
- Fall 2008 – 1<sup>st</sup> policy workshop in Africa
  - Entebbe, Uganda
- Jun 2009 – 2<sup>nd</sup> policy workshop in North America:
  - Linked to IJC Centennial celebrations
- **Aug 2009 – Side event: Stockholm World Water Week**
- Late 2009 – Preparation of final reports and recommendations
- 2006 – 2009 – 4 expert science workshops focussed on lake ecosystem science



# Lake Twinning Framework

- Climate change (adaptation/mitigation)
  - Vulnerability mapping
  - Management strategies
- Governance structure
  - How to deal with uncertainties
  - Invasive species management
  - Community engagement
- Human wellbeing
  - Linkage between healthy lakes and human well being
  - Natural resources evaluation



# Lake Twinning Framework

- Public-private partnerships
  - Institutional analysis of how to foster these partnerships
  - Sustainability of partnerships
- Gender equity
  - Role of women in management and education
- Ecosystem approaches and management
  - Groundwater aquifer management
  - Invasive species
  - Pollution control
  - Water quality standards



# Next Steps

- Some lessons learnt
- Policy Brief on Transboundary Lake basin management
  - Including general framework on transboundary lake basin management
- Continuation of the Lake Twinning initiative
  - Based on general framework for collaboration
  - And to include other transboundary lakes





# Thank you

For more information:

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