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## Leadership for the IWRM Process

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## What is IWRM?

- IWRM is a process
- that brings stakeholders together
- to increase water security in river basins
- through win-win solutions
- that are locally appropriate
- and generate a triple bottom line of economic, social and environmental outcomes.

• IWRM is <u>not</u> a plan.



#### **How to increase Water Security?**

- Outcome of the IWRM process
- Linked to food security and energy security
- No organization can achieve it alone

Leadership and collective action are needed among government, private sector, and civil society



## What kinds of leadership do we need?

- Leadership <u>across</u> organizations
- Leadership within organizations
- Your personal leadership (mastery)



#### What is Leadership?

## The true measure of leadership is **influence**, nothing more, nothing less.

- John Maxwell



#### **How Can We Promote Leadership?**

#### New thinking:

- Seeing systems
- Collaborating across boundaries
- Creating desired futures



From: Peter Senge. 2010. *The Necessary Revolution – Working Together to Create a Sustainable World*. Broadway Books.

No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it.

#### - Albert Einstein



#### **Leading across organizations**

#### In today's world:

- organizations are transforming from rigid hierarchical structures
- to networked structures
- with flows of people, information, and resources <u>across boundaries</u>



#### **IWRM crosses boundaries**

- Functions
- Organizations
- Expertise
- Disciplines
- Stakeholders
- Cultures
- Geographical locations
- Leaders need to go beyond their traditional focus on managing and protecting boundaries, and work towards <u>boundary-spanning leadership</u>

# What is boundary spanning leadership?

"Boundary spanning leadership is the capability to establish <u>direction</u>, <u>alignment</u>, and <u>commitment</u> across boundaries in service of a higher vision or goal." – Ernst and Yip, 2009.

The IWRM process to increase water security in river basins needs boundary spanning leadership



## A boundary – is it a barrier for you that separates and divides?





# ... or a bridge to innovative and transformative solutions?





## What do senior executives say?

- 86% believe it is "extremely important" to work effectively across boundaries in their current leadership role.
- yet only 7% believe that they are "very effective" in doing so.
- Horizontal boundaries pose the greatest challenges to senior executives.

Source: Survey by Center for Creative Leadership, 2009



#### Your personal leadership?

- Is your leadership limited to your organization?
- Are you already a boundary spanning leader for the IWRM process in your river basin?
- Can you share a boundary spanning leadership "story" with the other workshop participants?



### **NARBO to offer new opportunities**

#### **IWRM Proficiency Certification Program** with 4 levels of leadership proficiency

- Basic IWRM Advocate
  Middle IWRM Facilitator
  Senior IWRM Leader
  Regional IWRM Counselor
- Program development has started in collaboration with UNESCO-IHE



#### How is leadership developed?

#### The 70-20-10 rule:

- 10% from course work and training
- 20% from coaching and mentoring
- 70% from challenging assignments



#### **Competencies: 20 Years ago**

Most important for leaders:

- 1. Technical mastery
- 2. Self-motivation / discipline
- 3. Confidence
- 4. Effective communication
- 5. Resourcefulness



#### **Competencies: Today**

Most important competencies for leaders:

- 1. Self-motivation / discipline
- 2. Effective communication
- 3. Learning agility
- 4. Multi-cultural awareness
- 5. Adaptability / versatility



### **Competencies: 10 Years from now**

Most important competencies for leaders:

- 1. Adaptability / versatility
- 2. Effective communication
- 3. Learning agility
- 4. Multi-cultural awareness
- 5. Self-motivation / discipline
- 6. Collaboration



#### **Competencies: Timeless**

Essential competencies for leaders:

- Effective communication
- Self-motivation / discipline





Leadership is not a science or art, it is a state of consciousness.

Chatterjee (1998)



#### **Leadership and awareness**

We see the world, not as it is, but as we are, or as we are conditioned to see it.

- Stephen Covey



### **McKinsey Leadership Model**

#### **Five dimensions of leadership**



### Your skills and your leadership

- Visualize yourself as a glass
- Adding skills looks like pouring more water in your glass
- Developing your leadership looks like becoming a bigger glass



### **Developing leadership for what?**

#### Leadership development matrix

	Individual Capacity	Team Capacity	Organizational Capacity	Partnership Capacity	Network Capacity	Systems Capacity
Individual						
Team						
Organization						
Community						
Society						



#### When to start?

- Current situation: most professionals only receive an opportunity for formal leadership development when promoted into a management position
- New approach: start leadership development in primary school, and invest in youth leaders
- Leadership is no longer seen to require holding an executive position



#### **Non-executive leader roles**

- 1. Project champion
- 2. Enabling and facilitating leader
- 3. Team or project leader

Based on: Three key leadership roles for non-executive water leaders – by the International WaterCentre in Brisbane



#### **World view and leadership style**

World View

Integral Postmodern Modern Traditional Imperial Leadership Style

Integral Collaborative Strategic Authoritarian Autocratic





1<sup>st</sup> NARBO Executive Leadership Seminar

Hosted by PJT1 in Indonesia June 2011

Lessons learned from experienced water leaders in senior positions



## Initiatives in 2013

- Piloting NARBO proficiency certification supported by UNESCO-IHE
- Introducing global standards for water leadership development programs at UNESCO-IHE
- Developing an International Water Leaders Program by the International WaterCentre and UNESCO-IHE





- 1. Leadership for the IWRM process will increase water security.
- 2. Leaders need to span boundaries in the basin.
- 3. Engage youth and non-executive leaders early.

