Integrating SEA and IWRM in catchment landscape planning and governance

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Catchment Landscape Planning in Rwanda

• Strategic plans for integrated management of land and water resources within hydrological ‘catchment’ boundaries

• First catchment plans in Rwanda

• First application of SEA in Rwanda

• Global first integration of catchment planning and SEA processes
Ukulima Farm: 
Agriculture, 
Conservation, and 
Water Resources 
Research..
A new layer of governance?

Hydrological versus district boundaries
But you can’t challenge national policies!

Participant from central government entity for local development

2015, during NCEA-supported SEA training for catchment planning
Catchment Landscape Planning – perspective
Integrated management of land and water resources (Water Resources Board)

• Dublin Principles on Water & Sustainable Development (1992)
  1. Fresh water is a finite and vulnerable resource
  2. Water development & management should be participatory
  3. Women play central part
  4. Water is an economic good
  5. Water is a Human Right (Unesco 2002)

• Planning cycle for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
## Catchment Landscape Planning – perspective

Developing a strategic plan: requires SEA (Environmental Management Authority)

- **SEA Process**
  1. Screening
  2. Scoping
  3. Assessment
  4. Formal decision making
  5. Monitoring

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                2. Find stakeholders and announce start of the plan process; |
| Scoping       | 3. Develop a shared vision on challenges and opportunities, define plan objectives and draft alternative ways to reach these objectives;  
                4. Do a consistency analysis for relevant (national) policies that have consequences for each catchment;  
                5. Set ToR for the technical assessment, based on scoping results; |
| Assessment    | 6. Assess the impacts of alternatives and document this;  
                7. Review: organise (independent) quality assurance of documentation (preferably involving stakeholders); |
| Formal decision making | 8. Discuss with all stakeholders the alternative to prefer;  
                      9. Motivate the (political) decision in writing; |
| Monitoring    | 10. Monitor the implementation and discuss the results |
Types of SEA in planning processes

Source: SEA training within Water for Growth Rwanda, NCEA, 2015
Which process to follow?
Integrated development process of Catchment Plan and SEA

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Integrated development process of Catchment Plan and SEA

Main phases and steps
1. Scoping: Obtain consensus on need for SEA and link to planning for development of plan and SEA
2. Scoping: Identify and announce stakeholders at start of plan process
3. Scoping: Develop catchment characterisation with analysis of important aspects of the catchment
4. Scoping: Develop thematic and site-specific subplans and sub-programmes and sub-plans
5. Scoping: Identify and assess key issues and opportunities
6. Scoping: Develop long-term vision for the catchment and objectives for the consultation period
7. Scoping: Develop thematic and site-specific subplans and sub-programmes and sub-plans
8. Scoping: Develop Terms of Reference for assessment of alternatives and selection of preferred alternative
9. Planning: Develop Terms of Reference for assessment of alternatives
10. Planning: Develop Terms of Reference for assessment of alternatives and selection of preferred alternative
11. Planning: Prepare draft plan
12. Planning: Identify and assess key issues and opportunities
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Detailed Catchment Planning & SEA Manual
Main steps – sub steps – key outputs and roles

- Catchment Plan & SEA Process
  1. Screening
  2. Find stakeholders, start up
  3. Characterise catchment
  4. Consistency analysis
  5. List/map interventions
  6. Analyse issues/opportunities
  7. Validate info, develop vision
  8. Develop alternatives
  9. Develop ToR for SEA
  10. Review ToR for SEA (authority)
  11. Asses impacts of alternatives
  12. Public review
  13. Independent review (authority)
  14. Catchment Comm. decision
  15. Summarise process in Plan
  16. Add implementation plan, M&E
  17. Executive summary
  18. Cabinet Decision
  19. Publicise final Catchment Plan

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Results: Governance by Catchment Committee

Chaired by Vice Mayor, stakeholder representatives from each district
CC roles: plan, monitor, evaluate
District roles: plan, implement, monitor
Results: Consistency Analysis

- Vision 2050 and National Strategy for Transformation
- 7-Year Government Plan / National Strategy for Transformation 1 (7YP/NS1) 2017-2024
- Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS)
- Cross Cutting Areas (CCAs)
  - Sector Strategic Plans (SSPs) 2018-2024
  - Catchment Plans (CPs) 2018-2024
  - District Development Strategies (DDs) 2018-2024
- Annual plans and budgets, (joint) Imihigo, M&E
Results: water allocation plan

Alternatives: Storage, Sustainable Land Management, Efficiency, Reduced Irrigation
Results: Catchment Restoration to address soil erosion
For climate resilience, water/energy/food security, biodiversity, Payment for Ecosystem Services
Participatory decision-making: Micro-Catchment Action Planning

Global science, local solutions, Payment for Ecosystem Services

Landscape Approach considerations (large & small scale)

Additional datasets and local criteria to support detailed decision making

Micro-Catchment Action Planning: Detailed local consultation and decision making

- Micro-Catchment Action Plan
- 10 Catchment Restoration Plan
- District Landscape Restoration Plans
- DLUP update
- NUDMP update
- DFMP update
- Main and feeder road plans, etc
- Information on crop production capacity to NAAB, RAI, etc
Micro-Catchment Action Plan
Lessons learnt
For replication in Rwanda and elsewhere

- Empower Catchment Committee Chairperson to convene meetings
- Promote critical consistency analysis
- Inform plan partners/stakeholders up front on the duration of plan process, roles and responsibilities
- Strengthen regulations and guidance
- Alternatives should also focus on opportunities, not just issues; objectives broader than just water
- Develop GIS capacity for spatial planning
Let’s continue the conversation!
Post questions and comments via chat in the IAIA21 platform.

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