

Transboundary basin management: Water allocations & tradeoffs June 15, 2016



#### A shared resource at risk





#### **Domestic**

Millions without drinking water and sanitation 80% urban sewage untreated

Demand to grow by 40% by 2025

Ecology





- Largest water consumer; highest water footprint
- Demand to grow by 10% ~ 675 cubic km by 2025

Industry



- No dedicated allocations for ecology
- Threatened habitats, declining aquatic biodiversity

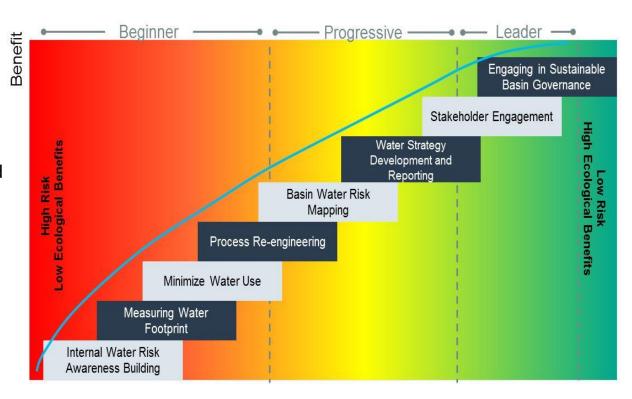
- Sector with highest demand growth
- Expected demand to be ~ 92 cubic km by 2025

#### **Priority** users

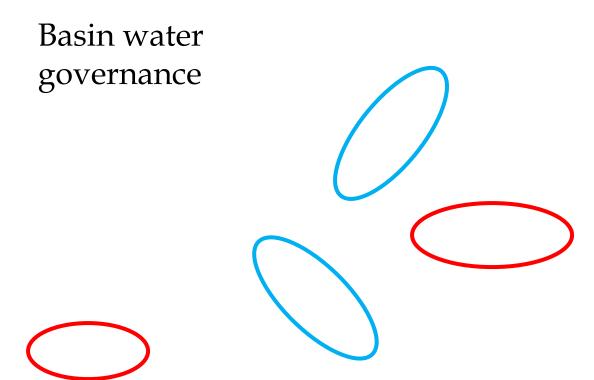


#### Multi disciplinary, multi stakeholder approach

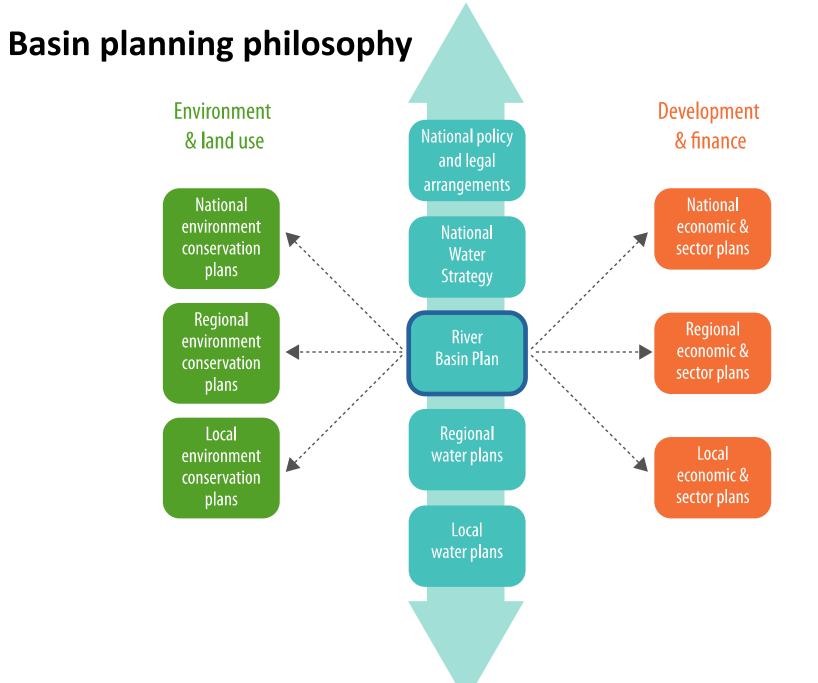
- Growing competition for water
- Individual action focused
- Collective ownership, vision for the basin yet to be mainstreamed
- Spaces for conversations are opening up, but limited
- Spaces for collective action limited
- No realisation of the Shared risk



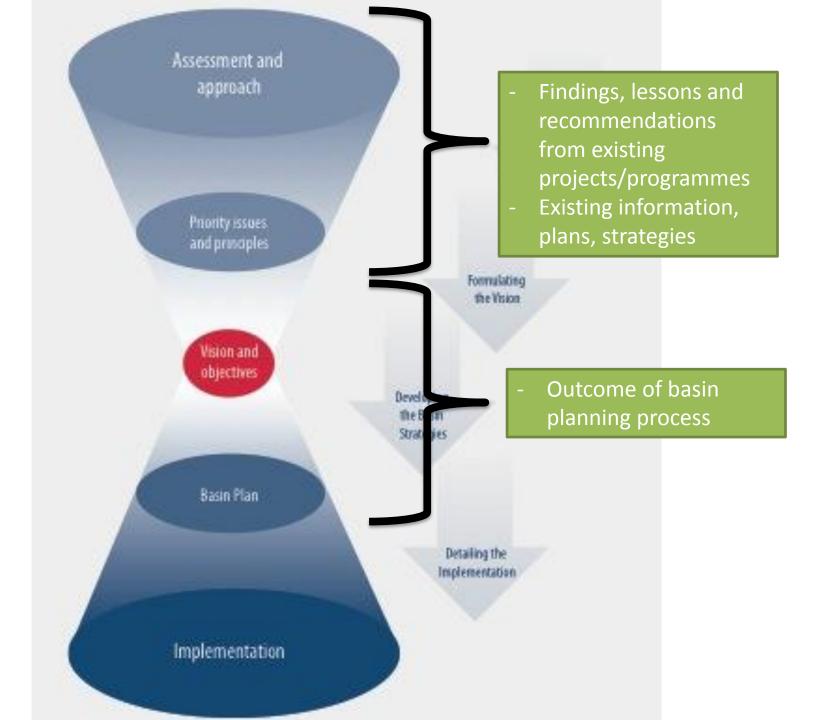
## For a shared vision Need to bring together and engage competing users



Development, supply chain and climate drivers



**Coordination & Integration is key** 



#### **River Basin Plan**

Goals / Vision

Strategic

& action

Water supply

20

Irrigation

objective

#### **Protection**

& action

objective Strategic

& action

objective

Strategic

**Development** 

& action

objective

Water use

efficiency

Strategic

#### **Disaster Risk**

Strategic

objective

& action

Flood

risk

management

Institutional

objective & action

Disaster/drought

respons

& action Strategic

**Monitoring** 

80

information

& action objective Strategic

Stakeholder

engagement

Strategic

Institutional

coordination

objective

#### ? trategic & action objective

Strategic objective & action

& action

Water quality

management

objective

Strategic

Water

allocation

## Hydropower

& action

Strategic

objective

# River restoration

80

**Navigation** 

River Groundwater 20 estuary protection protection

Implementation/Detailed Plan

# Financial mechanisms

Riparian 20 coastline

Basin plan

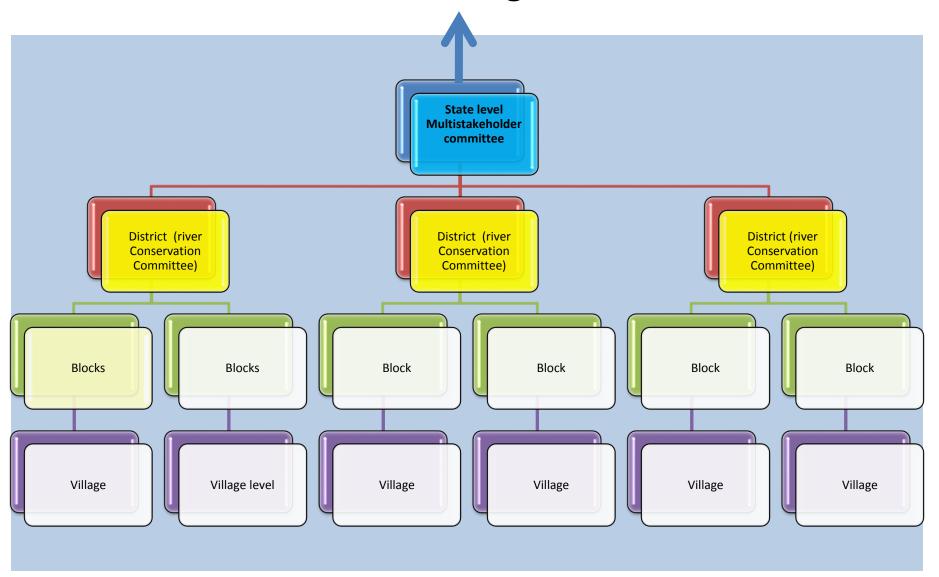
Sub basin plans

Sub basin plans

Catchment plans

Catchment plans

#### **River Basin organisation**



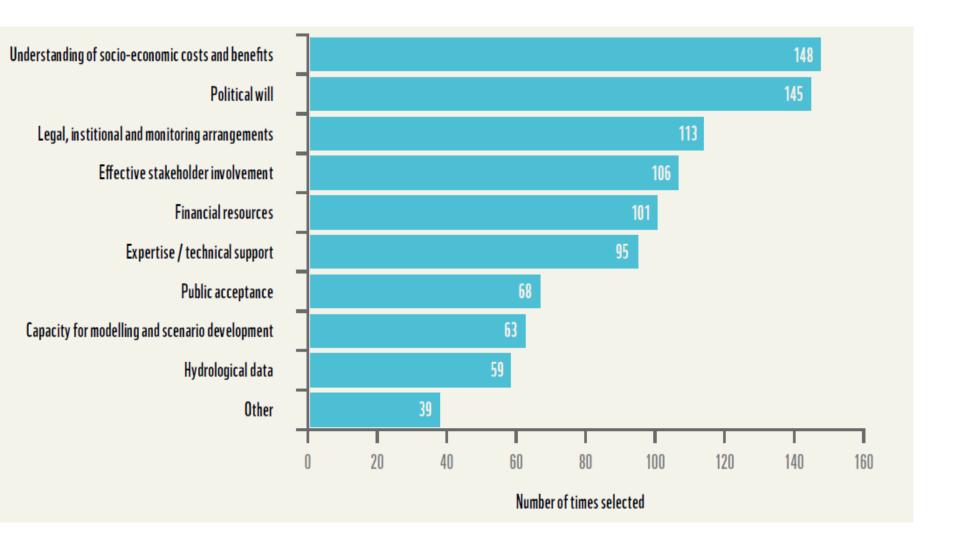
#### Integrating E-flows into basin plans

#### **Draft National Water Framework Bill 2016:**

- Calls for integrated river basin development and management
- Environmental flows adequate to preserve and protect a river basin as a hydrological and ecological system shall be maintained.

Temporal and spatial variations in quantity and quality of water required for freshwater and estuarine systems to perform their natural ecological functions (including material transport) and supports the spiritual, cultural and livelihood activities that depend on them (IITC 2012)

#### **Implementation Challenge**



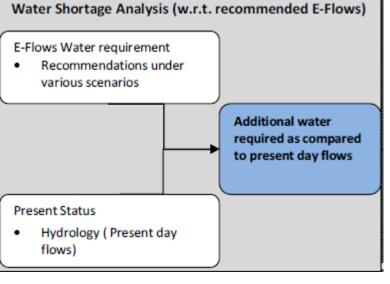
Future priorities	themes	Progress				
		Not yet considered	Initial thinking completed	Practical aspects considered	Some aspects in place	Fully operational
•	Definetion of e-flows for India	•	••••	••	• •	
<b>/:::</b> \	Options analysis and planning to include e-flows	• • • •	• • • • •	•••	•	
	Aims and objectives of e-flows	•••	••••	•••	•:	
• • • •	Centralised coordination of e-flows	• • • • • •		• •	•	
• • • • •	Fublic engagemet on e-flows	•	•••		•	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	raining in e-flows methods	•••••	• •		•	
	Research, date collection on e-flows	•	• • • • •	•	•	
	Centralised e-flows knowledge base	••••	• •			
	Preliminary e-flows assessments using desktop methods	•:•	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• •	• • •	
	Implementation of e-flows	••••	• • • •		:.	
• • •	Monitoring e-flows outcomes	Sc	ource: Report of th	ne Workshop on E	nvironmental Flo	ws for Strategic

Planning for the Ganga Basin World Bank 2015

#### Key issues

 What are the costs, benefits and trade-offs of using environmental flows for riverine ecosystem rejuvenation?

 What strategies (investments, policies...) need to be adopted to manage the trade-offs and to implement environmental flows?



matrix of various values of inflows, withdrawals and remaining water that can be used for satisfying E-Flows requirements under various scenarios

#### **Water Budgeting**

- Withdrawals (Power, Irrigation, Domestic)
- Water availability under various levels of withdrawals

#### Water availability

- Historical flows
- Barrage operations and policies
- Upstream Dam operation (Tehri)
- Release d/s of barrages
- Inter basin transfers (Ramganga)

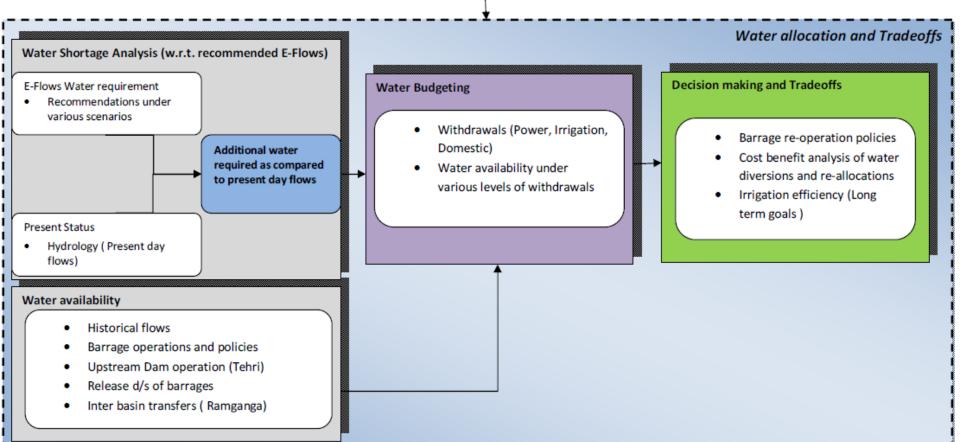
#### **Decision making and Tradeoffs**

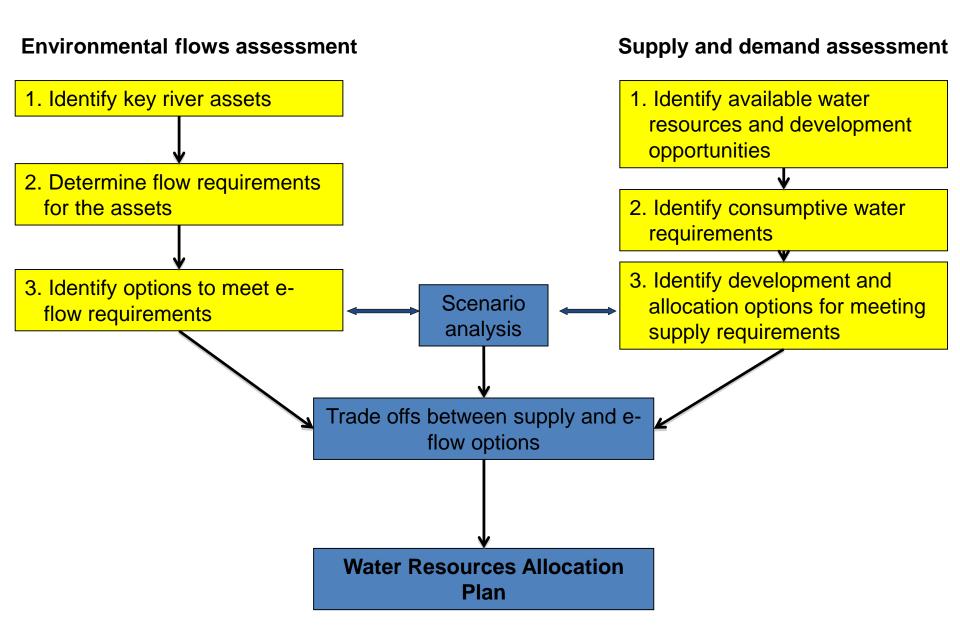
- Barrage re-operation policies
- Cost benefit analysis of water diversions and re-allocations
- Irrigation efficiency (Long term goals )

#### Trade off analysis

Environmental flow assessment (Upper and Lower Ganga)

- Site\stretch selection
- Hydrological\geomorphologic\biodiversity and socio-cultural status
- · E-Flow requirements analysis
- Recommendations under various scenarios





#### **Key lessons**

- E-flows are central to water planning and allocation process
- EFA is an evolving science. Capacity building on E-Flows at different levels needed

- Need to collaborate on documenting the cost-benefits, trade-offs and demonstrating E-flows
- Framework to integrate E-flows and trade-off management in basin management plans

An nationwide approach for E-flows assessment

An approach for Cost benefit tradeoff analysis

Illustrating how eflows can be embedded in basin plans

Case study of small basin under allocated

A big basin over allocated

- Developing a framework (social, institutional and technical for E-Flows
- Proof of concept demonstration to assess costsbenefits and tradeoffs

Recommendations for integrating e-flows in basin plans



### THANK YOU Suresh Babu

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