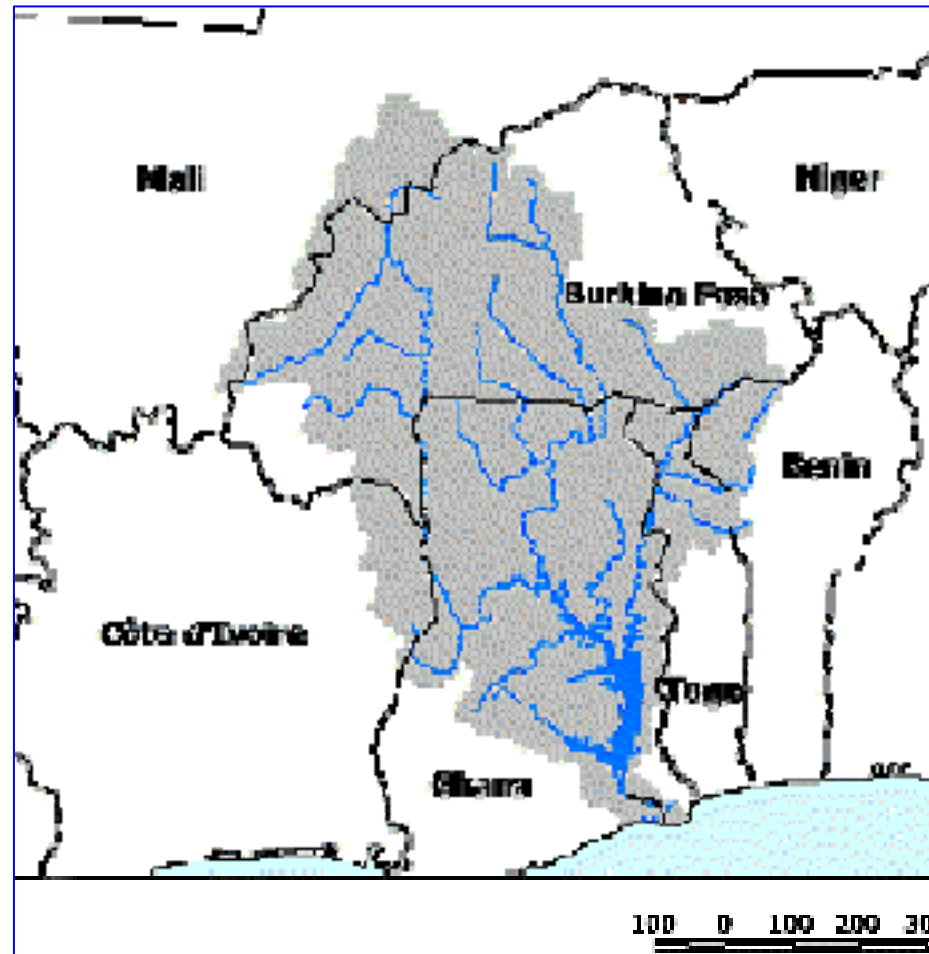


# **The Volta Basin Authority**

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Ag. Executive Director

**The Volta is shared by 6 countries in West Africa. It stretches from north to south over a distance of 1850 km with a basin covering an area of about 400,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Total population about 19 m**



<b>Country</b>	<b>Area of Basin (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>% of Basin Area</b>	<b>% of Country Area</b>	<b>% Population</b>
<b>Bénin</b>	<b>13,590</b>	<b>3.41</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>2.56</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>171,105</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>47.6</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<b>9,890</b>	<b>2.48</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.13</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>165,830</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>35.8</b>
<b>Mali</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>3.12</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>3.35</b>
<b>Togo</b>	<b>25,545</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>8.55</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>398,390</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>

# **Preparatory Activities Towards Establishment of Volta Basin Authority (VBA**

- **In the last decade, various activities and initiatives have taken place;**
- **However, current process started with creation of the Volta Basin Technical Committee (VBTC) in July 2004**
  - **2 experts from the six riparian countries;**
- **Mandate of VBTC was among others, identify the issues and obstacles towards the establishment of a Volta basin organization;**
- **From March to December 2005, 3 Sessions of VBTC were held in Ouagadougou;**
- **3rd Session of VBTC followed by 1st meeting of Council of Ministers, December 2005 to sign MoU to create a Volta Basin Authority;**
- **MoU, among others, proposed the drafting of a Convention and related texts for the VBA;**

**The 4th Session of the VBTC, Lome, 14 to 15 July 2006, finalized the Convention and Statutes;**

**The 2nd meeting of the Council of Ministers, Lome, 17 July 2006:**

- 1. approved the draft Convention and Statutes; Ouagadougou as HQ**
- 2. adopted Road Map - priority activities for establishment of VBA**
- 3. appointed an Acting Executive Director (Ghana) and Deputy (Togo) - charged with implementation of the Road Map.**

**Within 2 years, July 2004 to July 2006, VBTC changed to VBA**

**Main Financial and Technical Supporters**

- France**
- African Water Facility**
- ECOWAS Water Resources Co-ordination Unit**
- Sida/IUCN/Project on Improving Water Governance in the Volta Basin (PAGEV)**

**Interim Executive Directorate assumed duty in Ouagadougou in Sept. 2006**

# **Convention**

**The Volta Basin Authority (VBA) has a mandate to:**

- **1. Promote permanent consultation tools among the parties for the development of the basin;**
- **2. Promote the implementation of IWRM and the equitable distribution of the benefits resulting from their various utilizations;**
- **3. Authorize the development of infrastructure and projects planned by the stakeholders and which could have substantial impact on the water resources of the basin;**
- **4. Develop joint projects and works;**
- **5. Contribute to poverty alleviation, the sustainable development of the Parties in the Volta basin, and for better socioeconomic integration in the sub-region.**

**The permanent administrative organs of the Authority:**

- **The Assembly of Heads of State and Government;**
- **The Council of Ministers in charge of Water Resources;**
- **The Forum of the Parties involved in the Volta basin development;**
- **The Committee of Experts;**
- **The Executive Directorate of the Authority.**

## **Statutes (10 specific objectives)**

**organize and reinforce consultations among the riparian countries and also between these riparian countries and all the development partners interested in and concerned with the development of natural resources**

**harmonize national policies relating to the management of the water resources through the adoption and enforcement of IWRM**

**mobilize human, technical, and financial resources necessary for undertaking studies, research activities and works aimed at sustainable management of water resources;**

**coordinate studies, research activities and works initiated in the basin for the development of the water resources of the basin;**

**create and or improve the tools and networks for the collection, processing, storage and dissemination of data and information;**

**develop and implement institutional mechanisms and tools for monitoring, evaluation and planning for an efficient and sustainable management of the water resources;**

**promote cooperation between the Authority and other similar regional and international organisations;**

**authorize the development of infrastructure and projects planned by the States Parties and which could have substantial impact on the water resources of the basin;**

**develop joint projects and works;**

## Road Map

Outcomes	Activities	Deadline
<b>1. The interim executive directorate is put in place and is operational</b>	<b>i. Selection of the headquarters of the Authority;                      ii. Appointment and availability of an Acting Executive Director and his Deputy;                      iii. Mobilisation of resources to run the interim executive directorate;                      iv. Proficiency training in the adopted working languages</b>	<b>07/17/06                      07/17/06                      Permanent                      December 06</b>
<b>2. Convention and Statutes of the VBA are adopted and signed</b>	<b>Organisation of the Assembly of Heads of State for the establishment of the VBA, preceded by the Ministers' Council</b>	<b>December 06</b>
<b>3. Convention and Statutes of the VBA enforced</b>	<b>Each state party is engaged in the ratification process in conformity with its constitutional rules and procedures</b>	<b>June 07</b>
<b>4. Study of the institutional framework of the VBA is carried out</b>	<b>i. Adoption of the study ToR                      ii. Implementation of the study                      iii. Validation of the study</b>	<b>07/17/06                      October 06                      November 06</b>
<b>5. Activities planned as part of the EU Initiative for the Volta Basin initiated</b>	<b>Implementation of the project, following the modalities agreed upon by involved parties</b>	<b>June 07</b>
<b>6. projects and programmes in the basin are coordinated</b>	<b>i. Situation of the projects and programmes in the basin                      ii. Promote consultation and coordination frameworks</b>	<b>December 06                      June 07</b>
<b>7. VBA is internationally represented</b>	<b>i. Attend international meetings to make the VBA well known                      ii. Develop cooperation and partnership frameworks</b>	<b>June 07</b>



# **Extent of Execution of Road Map**

- **Parts of the Road Map implemented within the stipulated time frame, while others are still in progress;**
- **For example, while the Convention has been signed by the Heads of State on 19 Jan 07, the Statues are yet to be signed;**
- **Also, although the Institutional Framework has been drafted, it has not been approved by the Council of Ministers as the process of its validation has delayed;**
- **Thus, the VBA is currently awaiting the approval of such key documents as the Organizational Chart, Financial Regulations, Conditions of Service and Cost Sharing Mechanisms.**

## Criteria for Cost Sharing I

<b>Member States</b>	<b>% of VBA Annual Budget</b>			
	<b>Proportion of Basin Area</b>	<b>Proportion of Basin Population</b>	<b>Economic Power (% of Basin GDP)</b>	<b>Average of 3 Criteria</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7.33</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>34.64</b>
<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11.57</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31.17</b>
<b>Mali</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6.10</b>
<b>Togo</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9.17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

## Criteria for Cost Sharing II

	<b>% of VBA Annual Budget</b>			
<b>Member States</b>	<b>Equal Sharing of 30% of Budget</b>	<b>70% of Average of 3 Criteria</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Actual Negotiated</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>10.13</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>24.24</b>	<b>29.24</b>	<b>29.0</b>
<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>13.10</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>21.82</b>	<b>26.82</b>	<b>29.0</b>
<b>Mali</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.27</b>	<b>9.27</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>Togo</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>6.42</b>	<b>11.42</b>	<b>14.0</b>
	<b>30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

# **WAY FORWARD**

**to facilitate and move the process forward towards meeting the specific objectives of the VBA, future activities are to be based on the following four elements:**

- i. Continuing the establishment of VBA;**
- ii. Continuing with priority technical activities;**
- iii. Ensuring financial sustainability; and**
- iv. Creation of awareness.**

## **Priority Technical Activities**

- **Collecting information on the status of projects and programmes and promoting consultation and information frameworks;**
- **EU Water Initiative (EUWI);**
- **Observatory for Water Resources - French GEF. Feasibility study and preparation of the project document;**
- **Volta HYCOS Project – African Water Facility**
- **ECOWAS/WRCU, PAGEV Project – Sida/IUCN**
- **Volta Transboundary Project – Global GEF**
- **GLOWA Volta Project**

# **Financial Sustainability**

- **Primary support to be provided by the riparian countries through the proposed cost sharing mechanisms. Also, support from:**
  - i. financial partners**
  - ii. execution of joint projects, and**
  - iii. other partnership arrangements, e.g. UN Water Africa**
- **With respect to the financial partners, Council of Ministers, in a resolution at its 3rd meeting on 17 July 2006, appealed to France, ECOWAS and the African Water Facility to lead the formation of a Financial Support Group for the VBA.**
- **The first Consultative Meeting of the Financial Partners was held in Ouagadougou on 20 December 2006.**

## ***On Behalf of the VBA,***

- ***I wish to express sincere gratitude to our Financial and Technical Partners for their Continued Support***
  
- ***I thank You for Your Attention***