Lessons for IWRM: the Nile and Senegal cases

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International Yellow River Forum
The Nile Case, Reign of Politics over Science: a century of miscalculations

160 million people, 10% of Africa, 10 countries

Clearly suboptimal (not to say catastrophic) management of water

The colonial era legacy of a downstream monopolisation of water resources

Until recently powerlessly objected by upstream States

Downstream State the most hydrologically vulnerable and the most militarily powerful

Iniquitous legal argument (historical rights and absolute territorial integrity doctrine)

The Egyptian carrot (limited cooperation strategy) and stick (military threats, blocking funds strategy) approach

Caricature of Cecil Rhodes and its project of a « British Africa » from Cape Town to Cairo
An artist’s rendition of the Grand Millenium Dam/Renaissance Dam (under construction)

An artist’s rendition of the location where the Millennium Dam is being built between Lebeyat (left) and Neqor (right) mountains on a one-kilometre stretch of land in Benishangul-gumuz Regional State. Of the total 15 turbines the completed hydropower project is to contain, two are to be operational in 44 months to generate 700MW of electricity.
Senegal river basin
« The chameleon changes colour to match the earth, the earth doesn’t change to match the chameleon »

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!