BOTSWANA INTERVENTION

Equitable Water allocating and sustainable utilization of the transboundary water resources is pivotal point of transboundary water cooperation. The allocation should be based on the three key principles of: No significant harm to the resources, allocation and utilization that it does not bring an element of conflict, protection of resources by all and all means.

Botswana is part of the four River Basin Organisation that were established on these principles. Botswana share one basin with seven countries, one with two and other two basins with 3 countries each.

In all those basins Botswana is getting water for her water security through negotiation and equitable allocation under the auspices of this RBOs. We are the example of the beneficiary in transboundary water allocation as we are getting 495 MCM from Zambezi basin, 100 MCM from Lesotho through South Africa in Orange-Senque Basin and also a possibility of utilizing sea water from Atlantic Ocean through Namibia.

There is still limitation in water allocation and the riparian countries are well cooperating to improve and enhance the exploitation of transboundary groundwater resources.

Challenges are mostly on limited data on transboundary aquifers to inform decision marking. The transboundary aquifer that have made significant progress in terms on transboundary groundwater resources management is concerned in Stampriet aquifer. We do share this aquifer with Namibia and South Africa and the trio recently receive a recognition award for development of Stampriet under transboundary cooperation.

Botswana is very much interested in participating in transboundary Water Cooperation/ Water Allocation Drive Workshops/ workshop that can be hosted in the Southern Africa Region to share experience.

Co-Chair Botswana is one of countries that contributed significantly on the development of the Water Allocation Booklet.