

# 4<sup>th</sup> SADC GROUNDWATER CONFERENCE

10th -12th of November 2021  
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



## Understanding BRIDGE Tools - A Research Perspective

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International Association  
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International Water  
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GRIPP  
GROUNDWATER SOLUTIONS  
INITIATIVE FOR  
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International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre



British  
Geological  
Survey



IGS  
INSTITUTE FOR  
GROUNDWATER  
STUDIES



UNIVERSITY  
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RESEARCH AND EXCELLENCE

# Doing BRIDGE

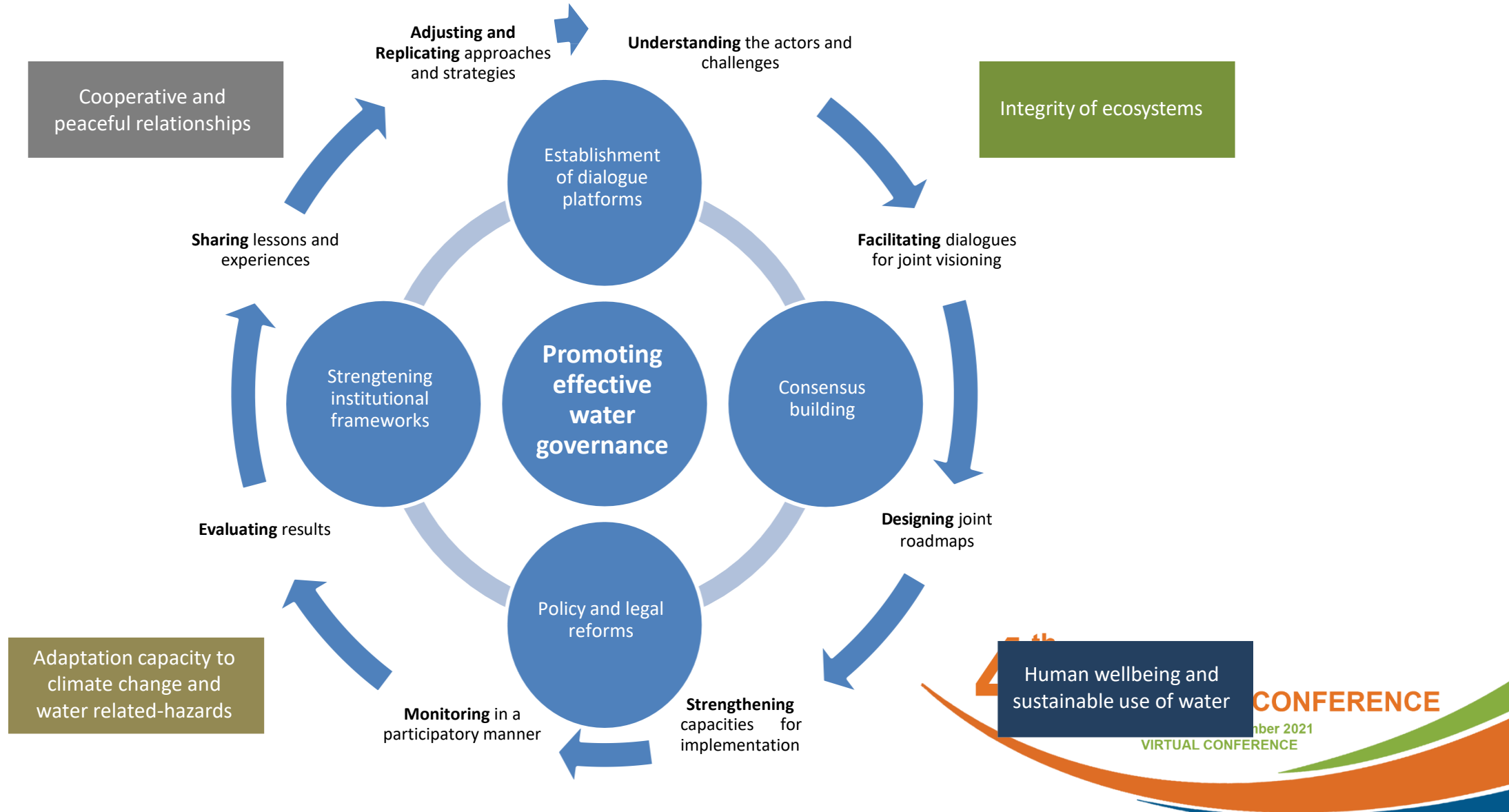


- Facilitates dialogue between multiple stakeholders to manage waters in a cooperative and peaceful manner
- Strengthens governance capacities of countries sharing transboundary waters
- Guides the adoption and reform of water policies, laws and agreements
- Advises the establishment of water institutions

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# Approach



# A variety of needs, interests and priorities

Environmental, Social, Economic, Political, Cultural

Negotiation is essential to ensure benefits for all

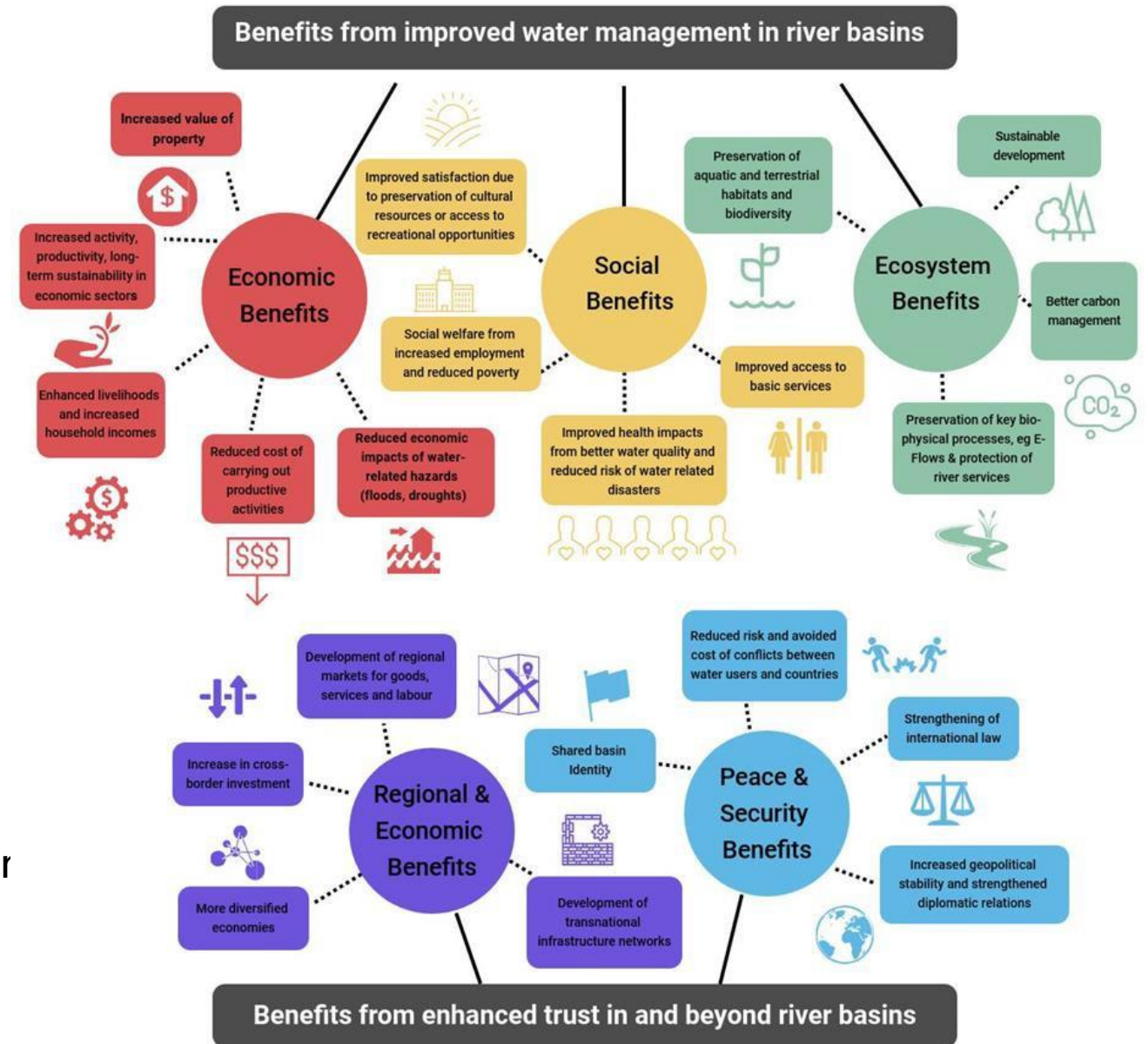
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# Benefit sharing approach

- Transboundary waters are complex
- Fair, effective and sustainable water management requires negotiation
- Cooperation brings benefits that countries could not achieve on their own
- Enables win-win outcomes for multiple stakeholders in a basin
- Focuses on the distribution of benefits rather than only in water allocations



# Benefit sharing steps



1

Identifying stakeholders and mapping interests and influence



2

Identifying the range of existing and potential benefits



3

Building benefit enhancing scenarios



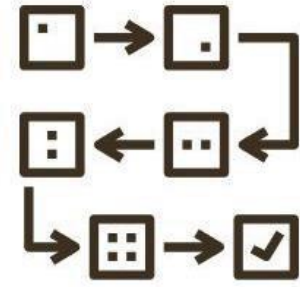
4

Estimating costs and benefits from future scenarios



5

Negotiating benefits



6

Institutional agreements and implementation mechanisms

# Key Lessons from Project Implementation

- Multi-level and cross-sectoral dialogues facilitate cooperation to identify mutual benefits and address complex challenges jointly.
- Effective water governance is based on policies, laws and agreements.
- Water institutions require adequate technical and financial capacities.
- Sustainable investment is key to mobilise water governance, cooperation and diplomacy.

# Key Lessons we Must Learn

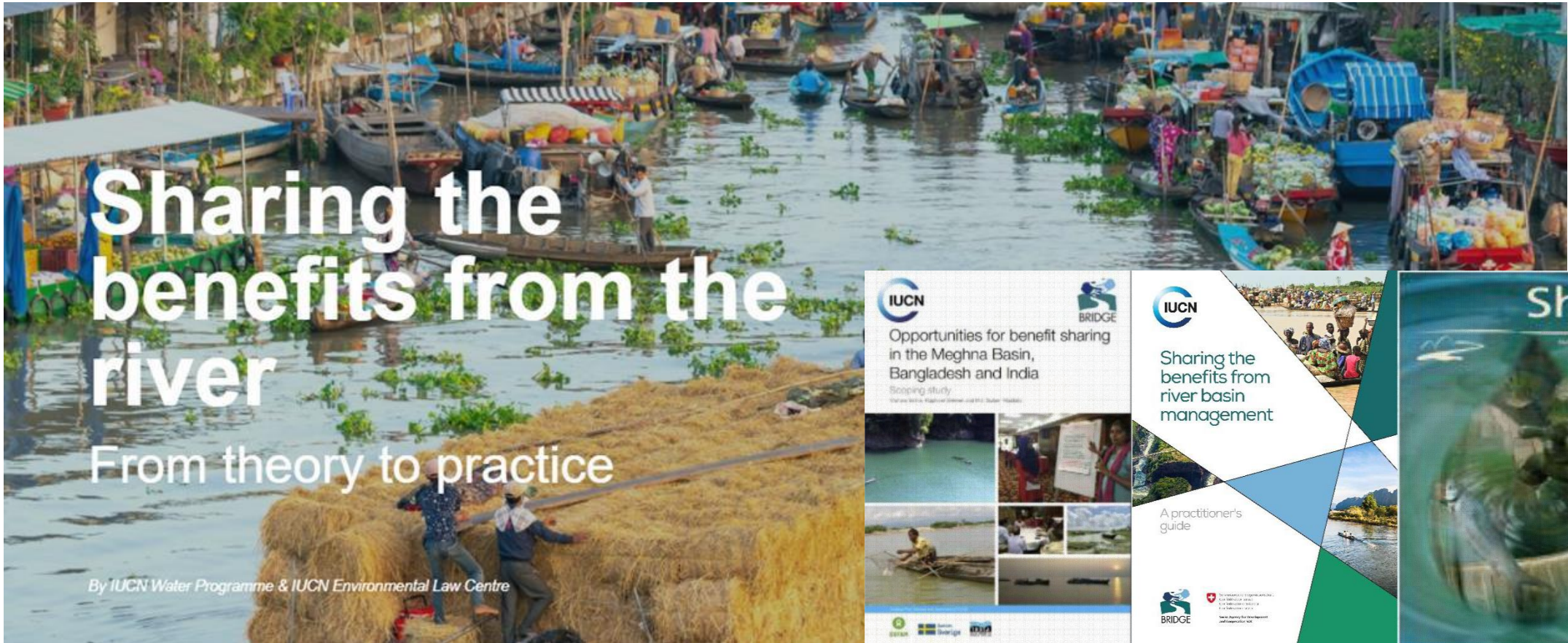
- The principles that should accompany benefit sharing
- Understanding when benefit sharing should be introduced
- The standard institutional arrangements required to make benefit sharing effective
- Accounting for groundwater benefits
- Financial sustainability in benefit sharing



# Issues for Further Research

- How do you manage benefit sharing in a changing context?
- What technical capacities are needed for benefit sharing to work?
- Why has it worked where it worked, and why has it not worked where it failed?
- Are there any tested theoretical approaches that have successfully facilitated benefit sharing?
- What type of regional frameworks do we need to support benefit sharing in SADC?
- At what level should benefit sharing be negotiated?
- What partnerships do we need to effectively investigate all this?

# Resources



<https://digital.iucn.org/water/sharing-the-benefits/>



# Thank you. Obrigado. Merci. Asante



[www.iucn.org/theme/water](http://www.iucn.org/theme/water)

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