BASIN VERSUS PROJECT PLANNING: WHO SHOULD DO WHAT AND WHERE?

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The Theory – Best Practice

- Basin planning to optimize water use for multiple users
- Focus on long-term sustainability of resource use
- Can promote cooperation between projects and countries through institutions
- Ample guidelines and studies on basin planning, Cumulative Impact Assessments, etc.
Reality on the Ground

- Projects are being developed as “one-offs” or operational cascades
- Profitability-driven investments within the legal requirements not multi-purpose
- Separate PPAs and Concession Commitments – over time
- Different government counterpart ministries and local authorities responsible
Quo Vadis?

- Licenses for basins to one development consortium so that all aspects can be more easily considered
- Broader ownership base – Public-Private Partnerships
- Benefit-sharing mechanism a requirement – standards and institutional bodies rather than CSR by projects