PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)
APPRAISAL STAGE

May 30, 2013
Report No.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Engaging Civil Society for Social and Climate Resilience in the Nile Basin Project (P132448)</th>
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<td>Region</td>
<td>AFRICA</td>
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<td>Country</td>
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<td>Sector(s)</td>
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<td>Lending Instrument</td>
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<td>Borrower(s)</td>
<td>Nile Basin Discourse</td>
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<td>Implementing Agency</td>
<td>Nile Basin Discourse</td>
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<td>Date PID Prepared</td>
<td>May 30, 2013</td>
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<td>Estimated Date of Appraisal</td>
<td>June 14, 2013</td>
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<td>Estimated Date of Approval</td>
<td>June 28, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Review Decision</td>
<td>The project was cleared for appraisal following a virtual concept review meeting on December 10, 2012</td>
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I. Regional Context

The Nile River Basin is shared by eleven countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. The world’s longest river – covering one-tenth of Africa’s total land mass – is the economic lifeline of the estimated 238 million people who live within the boundaries of the Basin and the roughly 437 million that depend on Nile waters. An estimated 75 per cent of the Nile population lives in rural areas, where food security and livelihoods are at high risk to natural hazards. Floods and droughts routinely cause devastation. While the Nile countries are extremely diverse, they are united by their dependence on the river. Each of the countries has ambitious national development plans to fuel economic growth and poverty alleviation efforts that depend critically on the sustainable use and management of shared Nile waters. This includes investments in energy, food production, transportation, industrial development, and environmental conservation.

The interdependence of limited water resources across national boundaries makes coordination among stakeholders critical. Stakeholders at all levels, including community level, need to understand the need for and benefits of Nile cooperation. Civil society can play an important role in raising awareness on the benefits of Nile cooperation, and in mobilizing support for cooperative dialogue and action. Moreover, engagement of riparian citizens is needed to promote Nile cooperation, monitor the impacts of investment projects, share knowledge on resilience building strategies, and engage in constructive dialogue in order to ensure that Nile basin investments are sustainable and provide benefits to all its citizens.

II. Sectoral and Institutional Context
The Nile riparian countries have long recognized that cooperative management and development hold the greatest prospects of bringing mutual benefits to the region. In 1999, the Council of the Ministers of Water Affairs from the Nile Basin Countries (the Nile-COM) jointly established the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) as a transitional mechanism for cooperation. NBI’s long-term Shared Vision is “to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resources.” Looking to the future, the NBI has developed a Strategic Plan for the 2012 to 2016 which supports its three core functions: (i) facilitating cooperation, (ii) water resources management, and (iii) water resources development. In December 2012, the Bank approved Nile Cooperation for Results (NCORE) project, a technical assistance project for NBI to strengthen cooperation, improve water resource management and the knowledge base, and prepare some development projects for future financing.

The Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) is a civil society institution established with the support of donors in 2002 (including the Bank) to strengthen civil society participation in NBI developmental processes and programs. First hosted by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the NBD has evolved into an independent network claiming over 800 member organizations throughout the Basin. Member organizations are local and national NGOs working on a range of issues relevant to Nile cooperation, including environmental conservation, gender equity, livelihoods, poverty reduction, and others. The NGOs are members of national level Nile Discourse Forums (NDFs) established in each of the eleven riparian states, and the NDFs are in turn members of the NBD coordinated by a regional Secretariat based in Entebbe, Uganda. The stated mission of the NBD is “A Nile Basin in which there is sustainable social and economic development for all peoples of the Nile Basin, free of conflict, leading to achievement of justice, human rights, good governance, poverty eradication and protection of the environment.” Its mission is “to ensure that a fully informed and basin-wide civil society develops and plays a key role in achieving the vision, through pro-active and critical influencing of projects, programs and policies of the Nile Basin Initiative and other development processes.”

Assessments of the NBD, in addition to stakeholder feedback have identified three critical roles for the network: (i) a bottom-up communications pipeline for raising the voices of citizens and civil society up to the governmental and regional levels; (ii) a top-down pipeline for educating and informing citizens and civil society on Nile issues and development projects, etc.; and, (ii) a horizontal pipeline between citizens and civil society organizations both within and across national borders for knowledge and capacity sharing.

The 2011 review of NBD found that “Awareness-raising among civil society actors remains a valuable function as major development programs are moving forward in the Nile Basin, an area that has traditionally had little involvement of civil society in such processes”. While the importance and value of NBD’s role is undisputed by all stakeholders, there is a need for strengthening the capacity of the network to fulfill the three core functions outlined above. A number of steps can be taken to encourage bottom-up and horizontal information sharing so that the network can draw more effectively on the knowledge and experience of its members. There is also an opportunity to make use of web and mobile technologies to promote more multi-directional, timely, and cost-effective information sharing among network members and stakeholders. A focus on the communications aspects of NBD’s capacity will be critical to ensure that the network is shaped by and better reflects

1 These include two independent evaluations of the NBD commissioned by DfID in 2009 and 2011, stakeholder interviews conducted by the World Bank team in January, May and August 2012, and a membership and stakeholder survey conducted by the NBD in April 2012.
the interests of its members and the communities they serve, so that they can understand, contribute
to, and benefit from Nile cooperation.

The proposed project is consistent with the Regional Integration Assistance Strategy (RIAS) and the
Africa Region strategy. The RIAS and the Africa strategy recognize regional approaches as a means
for increasing opportunities and for realizing economies of scale. The Africa strategy also includes a
pillar on Vulnerability and Resilience, identifying climate change as a serious threat that requires
collective action. The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) goals of the Nile riparian countries
include the promotion of equitable economic growth, improved food security, and regional
integration, all of which the proposed Project would support.

III. Project Development Objective

The PDO is to strengthen the capacity of the Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) to engage civil society
members and relevant stakeholders in Nile Basin cooperation programs, processes and
dialogue. This would be achieved by creating a platform for citizen engagement in Nile Basin
investment decisions and riparian dialogue, learning on climate risk management and resilience
building strategies, and promoting awareness of the benefits of Nile Basin cooperation.

IV. Project Description

Component Name
Strengthening the NBD Secretariat
Improving communications and outreach
Capacity building for NBD members

V. Financing (is USD Million)

<table>
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<th>For Loans/Credits/Others</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Borrower</td>
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<td>Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA)</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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VI. Implementation

The project includes three components, which are focused on strengthening the NBD Secretariat to
serve its membership; improving the multi-directional communications throughout the NBD
network; and connecting NBD membership to effective capacity development resources and
opportunities on priority topics.

Component 1. Strengthening the NBD Secretariat. This component will include a number of
activities to develop the capacity of the NBD Secretariat to deliver its core activities in a more cost-
effective and impactful manner. It entails technical assistance and operational support to the NBD to
map actors and stakeholders throughout the Nile Basin, providing a foundation for the Secretariat to
develop the strategies and measures for strengthening their network. Additional technical support
will focus on building capacity for media communications within NBD and on strengthening
monitoring and evaluation capacity within the Secretariat for both their activities and NBD member
activities. Finally, this component includes operational support to develop and implement an action
plan that will place the NBD on a more sustainable footing regarding funding.
Component 2. Improved communications and outreach. NBD is uniquely positioned to act as a communications conduit across a large, culturally and politically diverse, and geographically dispersed region. This component will include a review and revision of the existing NBD web site (www.nilebasindiscourse.org) and technical support to expand the scope of NBD’s internet based activities, including the use of mobile based tools in areas without internet access. These activities will develop the NBD Secretariat’s communications and outreach capacity, as well as the NBD membership’s ability to engage directly in dialogue on relevant issues through, for example, member organization WebPages hosted on the NBD website, member generated content, and the use of Web and mobile technologies for citizen feedback on Nile investment projects. In addition, this component includes operational support to explore other means for improving bottom up and horizontal communication among civil society organizations within the network, such as through closer partnerships with media, including the Nile Media Network.

Component 3. Capacity building for NBD members. Through this component, NBD will focus efforts on strengthening capacity of its members on key topics that they identify as priorities, such as climate change adaptation, gender equity, empowerment of women and young people as resilience champions, and general CSO organizational skills such as budgeting, proposal preparation, monitoring and evaluation, and fundraising. This component will make use of the communications tools developed in component (2) in addition to NBD’s main face-to-face events such as Nile Day activities and internships/exchanges with networks stakeholders, including the NBI. The component aims to connect members to online and other virtual resources, and to identify and support key face-to-face activities such as site visits, staff exchanges and peer-to-peer learning on the priority topics identified. It will provide an opportunity to better leverage the existing expertise within the network through peer-to-peer learning and help build awareness among communities of a regional Nile culture and the benefits of cooperation. This component will also provide technical support related to capacity development and potential sources of fundraising for their work.

VII. Safeguard Policies

This project does not trigger any safeguard policies.

VIII. Contact Point

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