



**NILE BASIN INITIATIVE**  
INITIATIVE DU BASSIN DU NIL

# Call for Abstracts

## NILE BASIN DEVELOPMENT FORUM 2017

October 23-24/25, 2017- Kigali, Rwanda

Theme: Investing in Nile cooperation for a water secure future

**The Nile Basin Development Forum (NBDF)** is a bi-annual event organized by the Nile Basin Initiative. NBDF provides a platform for policy makers, researchers, academia, private sector, civil society, and other interested parties within and outside the Nile Basin to deliberate on the state-of-the art on the River Nile, including research findings, novel practices and policies.

**The 2017 NBDF theme**, organized around eight sub-themes, will be dedicated to investigating pathways toward deepening transboundary cooperation among Nile riparian countries for a water secure future in a river basin that is facing growing pressures in the midst of uncertain of climate change impacts. The forum shall bring together a diverse set of stakeholders for whom the Nile matters most and can make constructive contributions towards ensuring its sustainable management.

The NBI Secretariat hereby invites you to submit extended abstracts of your paper for presentation and panel discussion for the 5<sup>th</sup> Nile Basin Development Forum.

Extended abstracts are required to be approximately 2 pages, single-spaced (A4 size)

Abstracts should be submitted by 31 March 2017.

### **Sub-theme 1 - ENSURING FOOD SECURITY: Transboundary cooperation for achieving the food security targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

**Key topics:** food security in the Nile Basin - status, trends and projections; monitoring food security in the Nile Basin; options for meeting the food security targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); options for enhancing productivity of rain-fed agriculture; agricultural water management in the Nile Basin; irrigation development in the Nile Basin – trends, challenges and prospects; use of non-conventional water in irrigated agriculture; enhancing agricultural water use efficiency and productivity;

### **Sub-theme 2- A REGIONAL APPROACH FOR ENHANCING ENERGY ACCESS: the Water - energy nexus**

**Key topics:** access to renewable energy: status, trends and projections; enhancing access to reliable energy through regionally optimized investments; managing systems of dams and power plants on transboundary rivers for optimal operation and safety; policy and legal frameworks for promoting regional investments in power trade and energy generation;

### Sub-theme 3 - ADDRESSING SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADEOFFS: The Water - food - energy nexus,

**Key topics:** walking the water-food-energy nexus talk in a transboundary context – case studies; economic optimization for efficient water allocation in the Nile Basin; how to strengthen the water infrastructure backbone for climate resilient food and energy production system in the Nile Basin; identifying key sectoral tradeoffs in the water-food-energy nexus and how to promote win-win solutions;

### Sub-theme 4 - SUSTAINING THE WATER ECOSYSTEMS OF THE NILE BASIN

**Key topics:** the state of the Nile Basin water dependent ecosystems – their economic and social values and the threats they face; environmental flows assessment – practices, success stories and challenges; economic valuation of ecosystem services – case studies from the Nile Basin and beyond; managing transboundary wetlands; cross-border approaches for sustainably managing water dependent ecosystems of the Nile Basin; land degradation and its impacts on livelihood; watershed management – success stories, challenges and way forward;

### Sub-theme 5 - WATER GOVERNANCE: Addressing emerging Nile Basin issues

**Key topics:** Determinants of effective water governance for ensuring water security in the Nile Basin; Nile cooperation – lessons and way forward; legal and institutional options for a Nile Basin investment program; multi-sectoral coordination at national level – practices, challenges, and way forward; cost and benefit sharing frameworks in a transboundary context; beyond legalisms: cultural, social-psychological, social capital factors as they affect the emergence of sustainable transboundary water governance.

### Sub-theme 6 - ENSURING WATER SECURITY: Exploring the possibilities

Key topics: water security in a shared river basin: concepts and prospects; achieving the water related targets of the SDG – opportunities through Nile cooperation; quantifying water availability and demand under climatic uncertainty; blue-green-grey water – how to ensure every drop counts; Conjunctive use of alternative water sources; strengthening regional dam safety and coordination of the operation of dams in a shared river basin;

### Sub-theme 7 - LEVERAGING OUR COMMONLY BUILT KNOWLEDGE ASSETS

Key topics: collaborative monitoring and reporting in a transboundary river basin; exploring the future of the Nile Basin water resources, case studies with NBI analytic tools; remote sensing earth observation for cost effective basin monitoring, examples from the practice, such as in consumptive water use monitoring, rainfall, lake water level, and water quality; monitoring.

### Sub-theme 8 - FINANCING REGIONAL INVESTMENTS IN A SHARED RIVER BASIN

Key topics: stocktaking NBI experiences in leveraging finance for transboundary investments; Lessons from around the world on financing joint water resources investments in a shared river basin; Leveraging climate and other regional/international financing windows - initiatives and mechanisms - what are the prospects for Nile Basin; Lessons of experience in leveraging the CDM; How to attract private finances to advance the Nile Basin investment agenda;

#### Guideline for authors

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit a 2-page extended abstract in English or French. The abstract should contain: Title; keywords; A short background; Methodology and approach; key findings, conclusions and recommendation.

Authors whose abstracts have been accepted shall be requested to submit power point presentation slides.

#### Important dates

Abstract submission	31 Mar. 2017
Notification of acceptance	31 May 2017
Submission of power point slides	31 July 2017

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE REFER TO THE NBDP WEBSITE