

Water Economics and Governance
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Lecture - 60
Global Water Diplomacy: Cooperation for Water

Hi everyone, this week we have been talking about global water diplomacy. Earlier we discussed about the various disputes in the sector of water, now we are going to focus on the cooperation of water.

So, we will see how cooperation and diplomacy or diplomatic level participation in the terms of management of trans boundary water resources helps in bridging the gaps bringing the nation together. So, that is what we will be discussing.

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Need for Water Cooperation

Cooperation is needed for resolution of water conflicts

- River Columbia (conflict between Canada and the US).
- The Colorado River (conflict between Mexico and the US).
- The river Senepas (conflict between Ecuador and Peru).
- The river Senegal (conflict between Mauritania and Senegal).
- The river Zambezi (conflict between Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana).
- The sources in the Sahara Desert (Reaction Egypt, Chad, Niger and Sudan).
- The River Nile (conflict between Egypt and Ethiopia).
- The river Tagus (conflict between Tagus and Duero).
- The river Ganges (conflict between India and Bangladesh).
- The Jordan River (the conflict between Israel and Jordan).
- Rivers Tigris and Euphrates (conflict between Turkey, Syria and Iraq).
- The Mekong River (conflict between Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam)

Source: <https://www.omicsonline.org/open-access/research-on-water-disputes-ier-1000124.php?aid=69683>

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To start with we already in the previous week we did see various disputes we discuss some of the disputes as well as well as coordination and cooperation also framing treaties and how it is going to resolve the cases.

So, essentially the cooperation is needed for resolution of water conflicts and there are variety of water conflicts for variety of reasons at times we have already discussed that. So, these are like some of the main or main water conflicts that are world often talks

about in the Columbia between Canada and us the Colorado River Mexico and us this has been a big conflict between the two nations ok.

So, that way there are some specific case studies we already discuss about the Nile Mekong river and that way there are all these conflicts and this thing arises. This conflicts typically mostly actually are on to the sharing of water or allocation of water for the purpose of irrigation hydroelectric or industrial or domestic consumption purpose. However, at times the such issues or conflicts can raise over the quality issues as well like for example, in the European countries there was there were a over a river water for the quality.

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Global Water Diplomacy

- The need to collectively address the relationship between water and disaster risks was emphasized by the [UN Secretary-General's water and sanitation Advisory Board \(UNSGAB\)](#) in 2015.
- According to UN-Water, water institutions are still largely technology and water supply driven. To improve the effectiveness of these institutions, the emphasis has to gradually change from technological solutions to [management of processes and people](#), involving inclusive decision-making.
- [Water diplomacy](#) is about preventing and resolving water-related conflicts, with both technical and governance interventions.

Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Co Waters, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, 2016

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So, they basically come together under an umbrella and signed a treaty to manage the quality of the water in river basin.

So, the in order to overcome such conflicts or in order to overcome the points of such conflicts it is needed that the relationship between water and it is disaster risk are collectively addressed ok.

So, that is that was point was emphasized in the UN Secretary-General's water and sanitation advisory board in 2015 according to this UN-Water, the water institutions are still largely technology and water supply driven. But that is not going to the serve purpose, as we have discussed earlier that water is a truly interdisciplinary management

subject and their needs the it needs actually the people from the different backgrounds, different expertise to come participate take part in have a discussion and then come up with the integrating water management plan.

So, that was also emphasized and it was says that it should gradually change from technological solutions to the management of processes and people and then that is why involving inclusive decision making.

This should not be considered as undermining the importance of technological solution, the technological solution has their own importance they have been important in the past and they will still be important in the future, but it is not that only technology can solve these issues there has to be basically due attention given to the management of people, processes, policy making, sustainability aspects involving stakeholders. So, all those things had should be given.

Now, water diplomacy is about preventing and resolving these water related conflicts with both technical and governance interventions. So, it is not that this governance intervention can solve the problem or it is not that just technical intervention can solve the problem we need both these together the technical intervention as well as governance intervention to basically solve water related conflicts and that is what essentially comes under the water diplomacy.

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Water Diplomacy: Definition

"Water diplomacy includes all measures by state and non-state actors that can be undertaken to prevent or peacefully resolve (emerging) conflicts and facilitate cooperation related to water availability, allocation or use between and within states and public and private stakeholders."



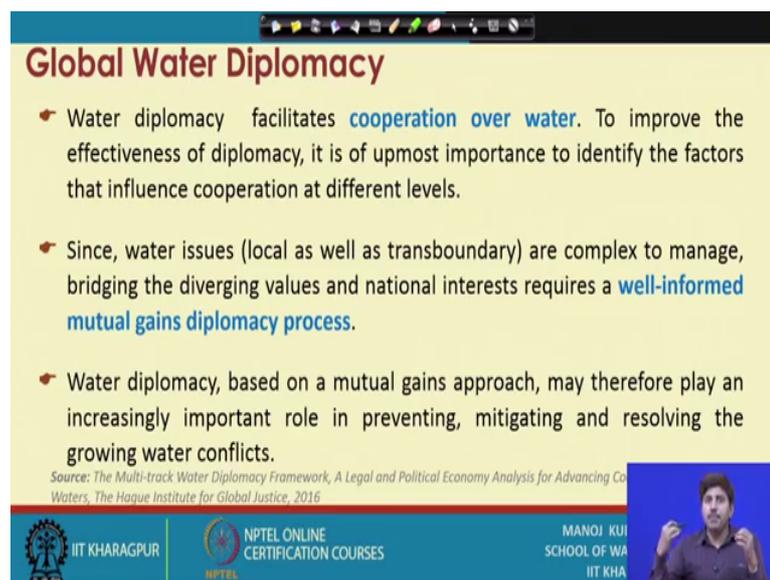
Image Source:
https://www.living-water.co.uk/blog/the-age-of-hydro-diplomacy/the_age_of_hydro-diplomacy/

Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Cooperation
Haague Institute for Global Justice, 2016

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So, if we look at the definition of water diplomacy, it includes all measures by state as well as non state actors non state organization institutions that can be undertaken to prevent or peacefully resolve the emerging conflicts and that is way, that way facilitate cooperation related to water availability allocation or its uses between and within the states and public and private stakeholders. So, that is how water diplomacy can be defined.

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Global Water Diplomacy

- Water diplomacy facilitates **cooperation over water**. To improve the effectiveness of diplomacy, it is of utmost importance to identify the factors that influence cooperation at different levels.
- Since, water issues (local as well as transboundary) are complex to manage, bridging the diverging values and national interests requires a **well-informed mutual gains diplomacy process**.
- Water diplomacy, based on a mutual gains approach, may therefore play an increasingly important role in preventing, mitigating and resolving the growing water conflicts.

Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Co Waters, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, 2016

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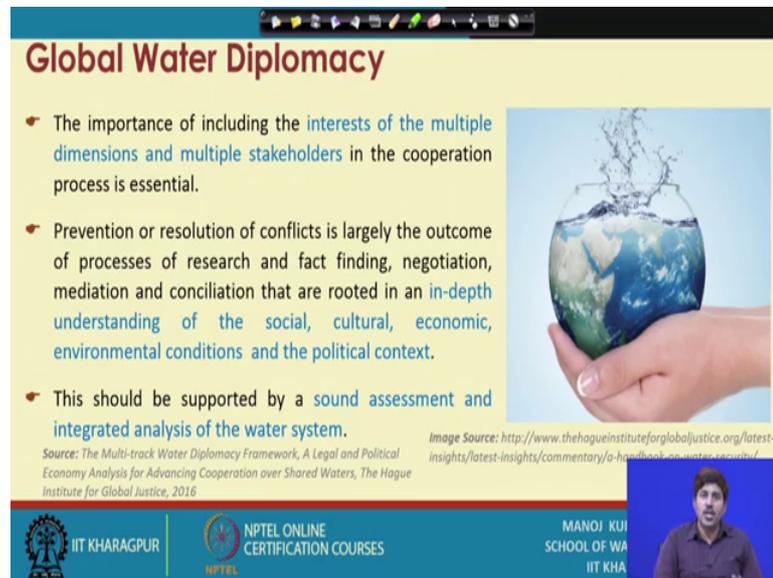
Now, the diplomacy facilitates cooperation over water that is the prime motive of talking about this water diplomacy. So, water diplomacy will sort of try to facilitate that a cooperation can be developed over water and conflicts can be resolved in that manner.

Now, since water issues either local as well as trans boundary water issues are very complex to manage, the bridging different values and goals different objectives different interests of various nations or society requires a well informed mutual gain diplomacy process ok.

That is very important that it is not that just two people can sit and discuss and short out the issues, it is not as a simple process it basically needs or requires several inputs. It require inputs on the what are the basic issues who is losing what who is gaining what, what are the available resources what are the requirement from different parties. So, all this information would be, should be available for taking this discussion taking this deliberation or talk further in a diplomatic manner.

So, based on this mutual gain approach this water diplomacy may play an increasingly important role in preventing mitigating and resolving the conflicts over water which are actually growing day by day.

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Global Water Diplomacy

- The importance of including the **interests of the multiple dimensions and multiple stakeholders** in the cooperation process is essential.
- Prevention or resolution of conflicts is largely the outcome of processes of research and fact finding, negotiation, mediation and conciliation that are rooted in an **in-depth understanding of the social, cultural, economic, environmental conditions and the political context.**
- This should be supported by a **sound assessment and integrated analysis of the water system.**

Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Cooperation over Shared Waters, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, 2016

Image Source: <http://www.thehagueinstituteforglobaljustice.org/latest-insights/latest-insights/commentary/a-handbook-on-water-security/>

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The importance includes interest of multiple dimensions and multiple stakeholders. So, that is very very much prime, that is sort of must in order to go for cooperation process because if you do not take care of mutual interest, if you do not take care of the interest of all the multiple stakeholders it the diplomacy is not going to work. Because this cooperation cannot be as we were discussing in the earlier session as well cooperation cannot be one sided, it has to be basically one has to consider the needs and requirements of the other parties as well and then only a cooperation can be build up.

So, prevention and resolution of conflict will largely be the outcome of processes of various evaluations, statistical analysis, research, fact finding, negotiations then consultations different type of mediating agency may be required. The idea is to basically route an in depth understanding of social cultural, economic and environmental conditions of the involved part parties and the political context of the issues as well. And this should be sort of eventually supported with sound assessment and integrated analysis of the available resources and water systems.

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The slide is titled "Water Cooperation: Types and Benefits". It contains a table with three columns: "Type", "The challenge", and "The opportunities". There are four rows of data. The first row is "Type 1: increasing benefits to the river", the second is "Type 2: increasing benefits from the river", the third is "Type 3: reducing costs because of the river", and the fourth is "Type 4: increasing benefits beyond the river". Below the table is a source citation: "Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Co Waters, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, 2016 [original source cited: Sadoff and Grey (2002, 393)]". At the bottom of the slide, there are logos for IIT KHARAGPUR and NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES, and a video feed of a presenter named MANOJ KUI from the SCHOOL OF WA.

Type	The challenge	The opportunities
Type 1: increasing benefits to the river	Degraded water quality, watersheds, wetlands, and biodiversity	Improved water quality, river flow characteristics, soil conservation, biodiversity and overall sustainability
Type 2: increasing benefits from the river	Increasing demands for water, suboptimal water resources management and development	Improved water resources management for hydropower and agricultural production, flood-drought management, navigation, environmental conservation, water quality and recreation
Type 3: reducing costs because of the river	Tense regional relations and political economy impacts	Policy shift to cooperation and development, away from dispute/conflict; from food (and energy) self-sufficiency to food (and energy) security; reduced dispute/conflict risk and military expenditure
Type 4: increasing benefits beyond the river	Regional fragmentation	Integration of regional infrastructure, markets and trade

Source: The Multi-track Water Diplomacy Framework, A Legal and Political Economy Analysis for Advancing Co Waters, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, 2016 [original source cited: Sadoff and Grey (2002, 393)]

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So, if we look at the benefits of water cooperation, well there are four different type of benefits are highlighted, the water cooperation can have benefit in to the river. So, by cooperation actually the river itself can get benefited in terms of improved water quality, river flow characteristics, while conservation biodiversity conservation and overall sustainability it can have benefit from the river.

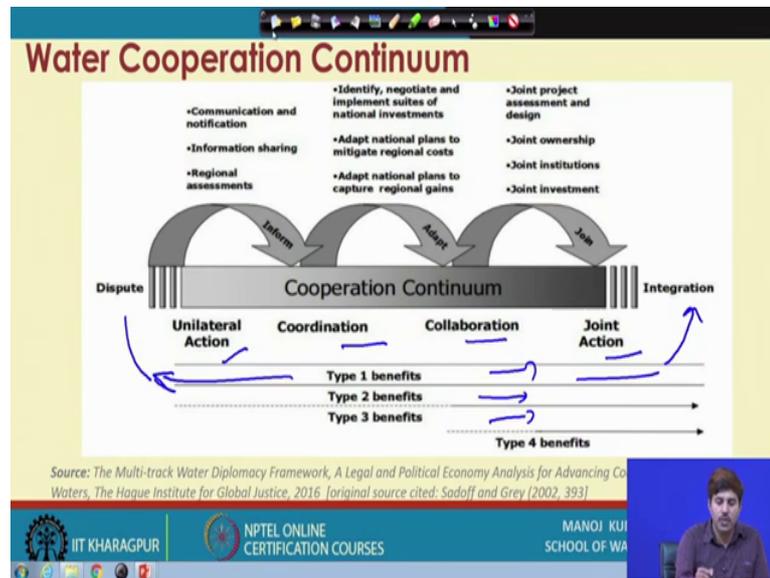
So, people can derive benefit from the river or larger section or larger society can derive benefits from the river over improved water resources management for hydropower agricultural protection purpose, flood drought management, navigation environmental conservation over all these points one can basically derive benefit from the river.

Then there could be reducing cost because of the river so sort of financial benefits. So, because the policy save development cooperation if it is managed properly in a more cooperated way, we can basically get that in terms of self sufficiency and there will be reduced dispute conflict risk and those kind of thing will sort of military expenditure and all those will reduce. So, that will be the basic reduction in the cost to country, to nations of course, not cost to the river.

And then there are benefits beyond the river. So, with such type of cooperation the regional fragmentation goes away there will be integration of regional infrastructure markets, trade, society as well as culture also. So, in previous lecture we were discussing that ultimate stage of cooperation which was which was basically given a rating of 7 is

the two nations merging and becoming one with a agreement and not under any pressure it is not that somebody captures the territory of other, but with a collective cooperation they decide to merge as one. So, that was the ultimate benefit sighted.

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So, if we see the dispute and integration frames and look at the cooperation continuum; So, we have a variety of aspects there could be a unilateral action, then there could be a coordination component, collaboration component and then joint action component. As we move towards the left in this direction its actually lead to dispute and as we move towards the right direction it eventually leads to the cooperation and integration ok.

So, that is how and the different type of benefits the type 1, type 2, type 3 and type 4 benefits we discussed eventually can be derived as we move forward towards the cooperative direction. So, that is what basically how the cooperation can support these things.

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Water Cooperation: History and Shifting Focus

- The history of international water treaties dates as far back as 2500 BC, when the two Sumerian city-states of Lagash and Umma crafted an agreement ending a water dispute along the Tigris River - often said to be the first treaty of any kind.
- Since then, a large body of water treaties has emerged. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization, more than 3,600 treaties related to international water resources have been drawn up since 805 AD. The majority of these deal with navigation and boundary demarcation.
- The focus of negotiation and treaty-making in the last century has shifted away towards the use, development, protection and conservation of water resources.

Source: http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/transboundary_waters.shtml

Sector	Count	Percentage
Water utilization	53	37%
Hydropower	57	39%
Flood control	13	9%
Industrial allocation	9	6%
Navigation	6	4%
Pollution	6	4%
Fishing	1	1%

Image Source: Human Development Report 2006. Beyond scarcity: Power, crisis. Chapter 6. UNDP.

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Then if we look at the history of water cooperation, the history of water cooperation is not new, the if we go by the united nations document it says that the database or the history of international water treaties date as back as 2500 BC ok. So, that is that was the time when first water treaty or the first known treaty was signed between two Sumerian cities and this is actually often said to be the first treaty of any kind for that matter.

Now, since then a large body of water treaties has emerged, the estimate from the food and agricultural organizations of united nation suggests that there are more than 2600 treaties, treaties related to the international water resources that has been developed since 2005 AD.

So, much before time the most of that earlier treaties because there was no as such scarcity of water resources ok, the population was very low resources was enough. So, the requirement of the cooperation was not in terms of fulfilling water demand ok, requirement were more in terms of navigation and boundary demarcation.

So, the treaties earlier or the historical treaties most of the historical treaties was signed to deal with issues related to the navigation and boundary demarcation. But eventually as the progress takes place the population growth takes place, the resource limitation came into the picture and our focus has saved from navigation or boundary demarcation to mores over onto the conceptive or non consumptive use of water for a variety purpose; So, that way the focus of negotiations and treaty making in particularly the last century

has shifted away from navigation and boundary demarcation most two towards the use the development protection and conservation of water resources.

So, the new treaties or new agreements between different nations focus more on to these aspects rather than the navigation and this thing. So, the 145 agreements which has been signed recent past has actually distribution like this. So, out of that almost 40 percent considers hydropower, 40 percent is for utilization of water then around 9 percent for flood control then 9 percent for industrial allocation and very few for navigation or those kind of thing ok. So, that is the status of this recent focus for the treaties or for the cooperation international cooperation which is being developed.

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Water Cooperation Prevailing over Water Disputes

- Despite the complexity of the problems, records show that water disputes can be handled diplomatically. The last 50 years have seen only 37 acute disputes involving violence, compared to 150 treaties that have been signed.
- Nations value these agreements because they make international relations over water more stable and predictable.

Image Source: <http://www.global-geneva.com/mps-bet-on-water-diplomacy-and-cern-for-the-middle-east/>

Source: http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/transboundary_waters.shtml

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The slide features a photograph of a group of people in a river, some holding flags, likely representing a water-related agreement or event. The slide also includes a small video inset of a man in the bottom right corner.

So, despite the complexity of the problem which we discussed earlier session, there are record shows that the water disputes can be handled diplomatically ok. In last 5 years if we go by the United Nations information in the last 50 years there has been only 37 cases of acute disputes where violence was involved and there has been 150 treaties that have been signed. So, if we see the cases of dispute versus cases of cooperation collective cooperation.

So, cases of collective cooperation is much more prevailing over to the cases of dispute, ok. So, nations value these agreements because they make international relations over water more stable and predictable and that is how word is actually, if we see.

So, more more than the dispute although these disputes are often more talked about because they create issues, they create media news they come on the TV channels. So, they are more talked about and people are more aware about the popular disputes rather than the cooperation which is which does not make much of the news because things run smoothly in a basically things run in a very smooth fashion in a joint cooperated agreement.

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Water Cooperation along-with Political Conflicts

- Legal agreements on water sharing have been negotiated and maintained even as conflicts have persisted over other issues.
- **Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam**, have been able to cooperate since 1957 within the framework of the Mekong River Commission, and they had technical exchanges throughout the Vietnam War.
- Since 1955 **Israel and Jordan**, have held regular talks on the sharing of the Jordan River, even as they were until recently in a legal state of war.
- The Indus River Commission survived 2-3 wars between India and Pakistan.

Source: <http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/tr>

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So, the water cooperation has survived along with the political conflicts also ok. So, the legal agreements on water sharing that has been negotiated they maintained and they have survived even the conflicts between the parties or between the nations over other things, there has been several such examples on this ok.

The Mekong river commission between Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam has basically survived even though they are in the technical exchanges throughout the Vietnam war ok. Israel and Jordan which have been basically in a legal state of war are actually under treaty, under agreement over sharing the Jordan river which is still working.

We have our own example in the form of Indus river commission which has still working even though India and Pakistan have been involved in 2 to 3 wars since then ok, we had two announced war and then one Kargil dispute if you consider that also as a war. So,

there are actually 3 wars between India and Pakistan since that time, but still that is surviving.

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Water Cooperation: Persisting Issues

- The more than 3,600 agreements and treaties signed are an achievement in themselves, but a closer look at them still reveals significant weaknesses.
- Need is there for workable monitoring provisions, enforcement mechanisms, and specific water allocation provisions that address variations in water flow and changing needs.
- There is a consensus among experts that international watercourse agreements need to be more concrete, setting out measures to enforce treaties made and incorporating detailed conflict resolution mechanisms in case disputes erupt.
- Better cooperation also entails identifying clear yet flexible water allocations and water quality standards, taking into account hydrological events, changing basin dynamics and societal values.

Source: <http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/trt>

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So, that is how the like nations value these treaties and the water is such a thing that the corporation for water can still exist even if the nations are under dispute over other issues. So, there are still quite a few persisting issues even after so much of cooperation ok, there have been more than 3600 agreement and treaties signed which is an achievement in itself.

But if one looks closely to them there are some relevant significant weaknesses as well, the treaties have signed, but it just signing or the signing agreement does not may not actually be the sufficient, we need in addition that working monitoring provisions we need the enforcement mechanisms that how the agreements or laws which are being made has should be enforced on the two countries and specific water allocation provisions.

There are sort of all experts agree to this that international water course agreements need to be more concrete and setting out measures to enforce treaties. So, these treaties are signed, but if any dispute occur or if somebody is not fulfilling the treaties there has to be a way to penalize or to internationally enforce the obligations over the accepting nations ok.

So, that is of very high importance and the better cooperation also entails the identifying clear and flexible clear, but still flexible water allocation. Flexibility is must because if you we know that particularly the water input in the form of precipitation and all that does not remain constant over the years it may vary. Sometime we may have high flood seasons sometimes we may have low flood season or dry season, we were discussing the Kaveri dispute in the previous week.

So, the most problem or the most violent situations arised when Karnataka was forced to fulfill the demands in the period of draught; So, when you are under an agreement and you, yourself are not able to get the water how you can leave water for others. So, still this allocation should be flexible ok, and there has to be water quality standards also which again quality is a very important perspective we talk.

So, much about the water sharing and quantity prospects that we often ignore or overlook the quality, but getting water is not sufficient getting good quality water is of equally importance.

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International Water Laws and Agreements

- London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972.
- London International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973.
- UN Convention on Law of the Sea, 1982.
- Helsinki Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 1992
- UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, 1997 – not ratified.
- Transboundary Groundwater Treaty, Bellagio Draft – proposed, but not signed.
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, 1971
- Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992
- Several other regional and water body specific agreements...

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/>

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There has been a quite a few international water laws and agreements on this though no concrete or no universally accepted law and water is there ok. So, there has been basically couple of conventions as back as 1972-73 in London which mostly on to the sea water then there was another us convention law of sea in 1982, the important some of the important international norms international law and this was recognized in the form

of the UN Convention law of Non-Navigational uses. So, this was not further seen on navigational uses of international water course, this was presented in United Nations in 1997, but it has not ratified because it needs certain members for ratification and that much sign has not been done yet.

There was a trans boundary groundwater treaty also present proposed, but that was also not signed in Europe the united nation members in the European countries they come up with a convention and protection of trans boundary water course for international lakes in Europe and that is one of the sort of landmark agreement.

But it is only limited to the European continental, European continent only there are few other regional and water bodies specific agreements were signed from time to time, but there is no as such a concrete international water law and many expert actually are of opinion that the countries should sit together and come up with such a law.

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The slide is titled "International Court of Justice - Water Law Cases" and lists the following cases:

- Dispute over the Status and Use of the Waters of the Silala (Chile v. Bolivia), June 2016
- Construction of a Road in Costa Rica along the San Juan River (Nicaragua v. Costa Rica), Dec 2011
- Certain Activities carried out by Nicaragua in the Border Area (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua), Nov 2010
- Pulp Mills on the River Uruguay (Argentina v. Uruguay), 2006
- Dispute regarding Navigational and Related Rights (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua), Sep 2005
- Case Concerning the Frontier Dispute (Republic of Benin v. Republic of Niger)
- Case Concerning Kasikili/Sedudu Island (Botswana v. Namibia)
- Case Concerning the Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros Project (Hungary v. Slovakia)

Source: <https://www.internationalwa>

The slide also features logos for IIT KHARAGPUR, NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES, and MANOJ KUMAR SCHOOL OF WATER RESOURCES.

So, that it can be basically internationally implemented, but again because the various countries has their own various interest and that is why at times it cannot be sort of formulated such a law which is acceptable to all.

Well again in treaties or agreement on all these things there has been several water law cases filed in the international court of justice ok. So, some of them are listed here, the Chile and Bolivia went under the dispute over the status of water use in Salalah river in

June to 2016. That way there are many other the Argentina and Uruguay conflict then Botswana and Namibia, Hungary and Slovakia.

So, quite a few Costa Rica and this though they have been basically moving to the international courts from time to time over settlement of the water issues. However, again if you see that the more prominent or larger or bigger countries do not bother such too much about the international court of justice and all that.

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The slide is titled "International Water Institutions" and is divided into two columns: "Freshwater Institutions" and "Marine institutions".

Freshwater Institutions	Marine institutions
• The UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP)	• The International Maritime Organization (IMO)
• The International Joint Commission between Canada and United States (IC-CMI)	• The International Seabed Authority
• The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)	• The International Whaling Commission
• The International Shared Aquifer Resource Management project	• The UNEP Regional Seas Programme
• The International Water Boundary Commission (US Section) between Mexico and United States	• The UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
• The International Water Management Institute (IWMI)	• The International Ocean Institute
• The IUCN Water and Nature Initiative (WANI)	• The IUCN Global Marine and Polar Programme (GMPP)

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org>

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Then there are international water institutions there are quite a few freshwater institutions have been established on an international scale and so there are quite a. So, these are the some list of the freshwater institutions these are some marine institutions which take care of the international measures ok.

So, they of course, have different focus these, these in institutions may have different focus looking at the different aspects of the water sharing or international issues.

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UN Initiatives

UN General Assembly Resolution on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers (A/RES/63/124)

- Adopted by consensus in Dec 2011, in the 63rd session of the UN General Assembly.
- The resolution encourages States 'to make appropriate bilateral or regional arrangements for the proper management of their transboundary aquifers, as per provisions of the resolution. These provisions include cooperation among States to prevent, reduce and control pollution of shared aquifers.
- The Law of Transboundary Aquifers is a concrete step forward towards the peaceful sharing of groundwater resources. Until then there was no instrument of international law that could provide a complete set of recommendations and guidelines for the sustainable and peaceful management of transboundary aquifers.

Source: <http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/tra>

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The United Nations initiatives in this regard has come in form of the general assembly resolution on the law of trans boundary aquifers ok. So, this was passed this was adopted in December 2021 in the 63 session of the UN general assembly. The resolution encourages the different states to make appropriate bilateral and regional arrangements for the management of their trans boundary aquifers.

The aim should be to prevent reduce control the pollution of this shared aquifer. So, because this was targeted on the trans boundary aquifer or groundwater. So, the target area was that and the law of trans boundary aquifer this particular is a concrete step forward towards the peaceful sharing of groundwater resources and as until this time there was no instrument of international law that could provide a complete set of recommendation and guidelines.

So, this was the first of it kinds and that way has a very high degree of importance in terms of managing trans boundary groundwater aquifers.

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UN Initiatives

Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, 1997

- The only treaty governing shared freshwater resources that is of universal applicability.
- It provides a framework of principles and rules that may be applied and adjusted to suit the characteristics of particular international watercourses.
- Some key guiding principles set out in the document include: the equitable and reasonable utilization of international watercourses; the application of appropriate measures to prevent harm to other States sharing an international watercourse; and the principle of prior notification of planned measures.
- For the Convention to become legally binding, at least 35 nations must ratify it.

Source: http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/transboundary_waters.shtml

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UN also attempted, United Nations also attempted law on the non-navigational use of international water course. So, for all other use like of the trans boundary rivers except the navigational uses. So, they provided a framework of principle and rule that may be applied and adjusted to suit the characteristic of a particular international water course or trans Boundary River.

So, the key guiding principle set out in this document targeted or the equitable and reasonable utilization of the resources, then application of appropriate measures to prevent harm to other states ok, on this thing and the prior notification of planned measures. So, these were the three major idea there were principle set out on to these that how you or equitable and reasonable utilization.

How you should ensure that no harm is being provided to the lower riparian state or upper riparian state for that matter and it said that in if any nation is going to plan any development activity or any sort of activity on the trans boundary or international water courses it must notify the involved nations or other parties as well. However, this could not be ratified because it need a minimum of 35 nations to sign it, but since that was not achieved. So, this convention is still not ratified.

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UN Initiatives

- 2013: International Year of Water Cooperation**
 - In Feb 2011, the UN General Assembly decided to proclaim 2013 as **International Year of Water Cooperation**
- World Water Day 2009: Shared Waters, Shared Opportunities**
 - World Water Day 2009 was dedicated to the theme "Shared Waters, Shared Opportunities" with **the focus on transboundary waters**.
- UN-Water Thematic Priority Area on Transboundary Waters**
 - Intended to provide a **platform to promote coherence and coordination of activities** by UN-Water Members and Partners in the area of transboundary waters.

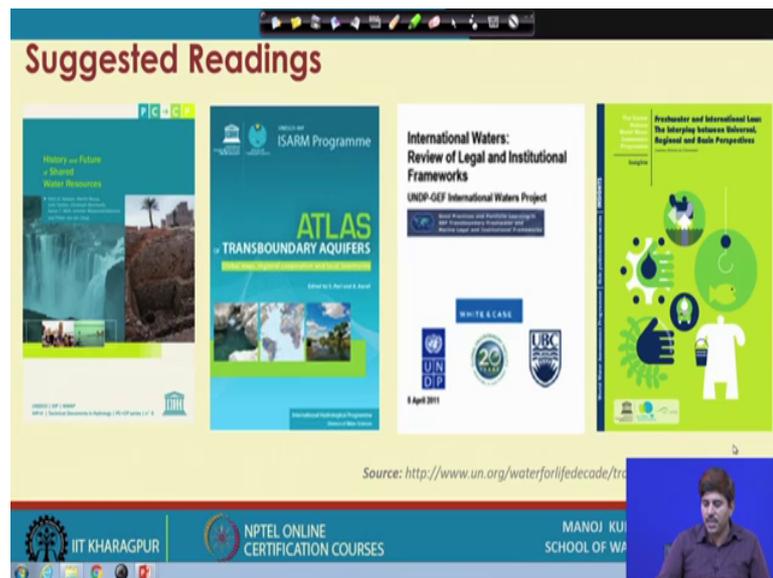
Source: <http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/tr>

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Then there were a few other small initiatives taken by the United Nations in 2013 was declared as an international year of water cooperation. So, in 2011 February the United Nations general assembly declared that 2013 will be celebrated as the international year of water cooperation. Then the world water day of 2009 was dedicated to the theme of shared water and shared opportunities with a focus on Trans boundary water. So, this falls on to the 22nd march world water day.

Then the UN-Water Thematic Priority Area on Transboundary Waters was considered. So, they considered trans boundary water as a thematic priority area under you and water initiative and intended to provide a platform for promoting the coherence and coordinating activities coordination activities in the member states over the trans boundary rivers.

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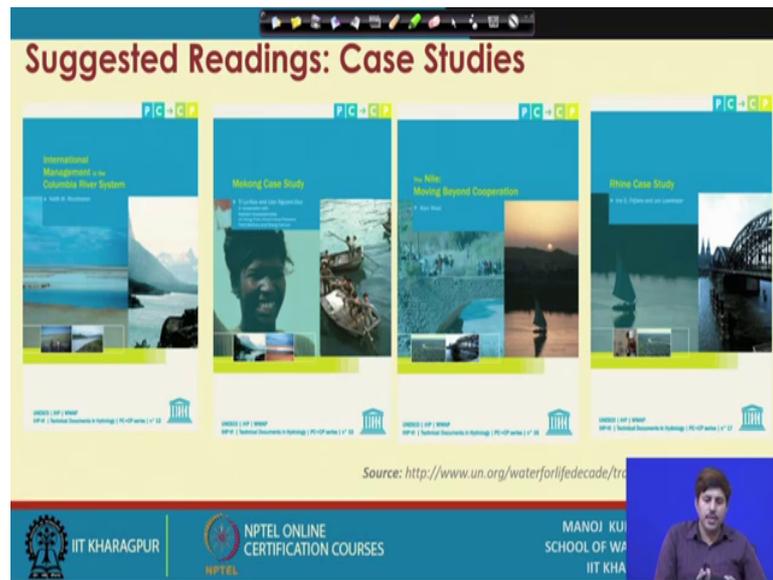


So, these are some of the United Nations initiative in this respect if you see we will we can conclude this over here. So, this was; obviously, there is lot of literature available onto the trans boundary issues because the trans boundary management of water has been a big issue and there is a quite a few literature available. If someone is interested they can go to through all these some suggested dating there are many other available on the different sources different platforms.

So, these are some of the books or these are some of the documents which consider. So, you have history and future of the shearwater resources which is by the United Nations then there is a atlas of trans boundary aquifers, there is an international water review of legal and institutional framework there is a freshwater and international laws.

So, there are all these documents and books are available on to the United Nations website ok, some of many of books are there on to the other platform also; these are some of the case studies.

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Those who are interested can go through these there are international management on the Columbia river system, Mekong case study, the Nile case study Rhine case study which is more on to the water quality aspect. So, there are variety of other documents available and those who are interested can explore further.

So, with this we conclude the discussion on the, we conclude this discussion on international waters or global water diplomacy and eventually we conclude in a way we conclude the entire discussion on this course. We will use the next two sessions for comprehensive summary of whatsoever has been discussed so far from week 1.

So, thank you for participating in this course, thank you for being with us throughout the 12 weeks and we will come back with a summary and that will be the end of this course.

Thank you.