

Water&Africa

HPA NEWSLETTER

Hydropolitics Association –Türkiye

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Water for peace and
prosperity
in Africa

**African Desk
HPA Center Türkiye**

African Desk Established at HPA Hydropolitics Academy Center

Hydropolitics Association Hydropolitics Academy Center decided to give importance to African studies, taking into account the challenges that Africa faces in many areas such as water resources, water management, transboundary waters, and the increasing role of this situation in the future of Africa and other countries. In this context, an Africa Desk was established at the HPA Hydropolitics Academy Center. The African Desk will more closely follow the developments in Africa's transboundary water basins in the areas of



expertise of the HPA Hydropolitical Academy Center. It will collaborate with universities and non-governmental organizations in African countries in areas such as education and training , research, joint project development and conferences ,transferring knowledge and experience on basin -wide regional development projects and sustainable water management.

There are 63 transboundary river basins and 38 transboundary groundwater basins on the African continent, which includes 54 countries. These basins cover 64% of Africa's total surface area, and transboundary waters constitute 90% of the freshwater resources on the continent. These basins contain water resources that cross the borders of two or more countries and are critical to the continent's water security and agricultural production. Africa's water resources are unequally distributed across the six most water-rich countries. Central and West Africa have 54% of the continent's total water resources. The twenty-seven poorest countries in terms of water are countries that have only 7% of water.

Approximately 50% of the continent's total surface water resources are concentrated in a single river basin, namely the Congo basin, and 75% of the total water resources are concentrated in eight river basins.

The largest river basins of the continent are Congo, Niger, Ogoague (Gabon), Zambezi, Nile, Sanga, Chari-Logone and Volta. They are river basins. Approximately 40% of the African population lives in transboundary river basins.

It is estimated that the population of Africa, which is 1.3 billion today, will increase to 2.8 billion in 2060 and this continent will be the continent with the youngest population in the world.

However, there are various difficulties in water sharing and management in many transboundary water basins. In particular, drought, overuse of water resources and climate change increase water security risks in these regions.

Türkiye's Relations with Africa



Türkiye has strong relations with the African continent in the fields of economic, political, security, cultural and humanitarian aid. Türkiye put forward the Africa Initiative Action Plan in 1998 and declared 2005 as the "Year of Africa" and took important steps to improve its relations with African countries. During these years, Türkiye-Africa Cooperation Summits were held and various agreements were signed with African countries. The First Türkiye-Africa Cooperation Summit held in Istanbul in 2008 was a turning point in Turkey's relations with Africa. Turkey was accepted as an observer member of the African Union in 2008 and signed a strategic partnership agreement with the African Union in 2014. . As of 2024, Türkiye has embassies in 44 countries on the African continent. Ankara maintains active diplomatic and economic relations with these countries. Among these countries,

Türkiye has important strategic partners such as South Africa, Nigeria, Senegal, Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Libya and Algeria.

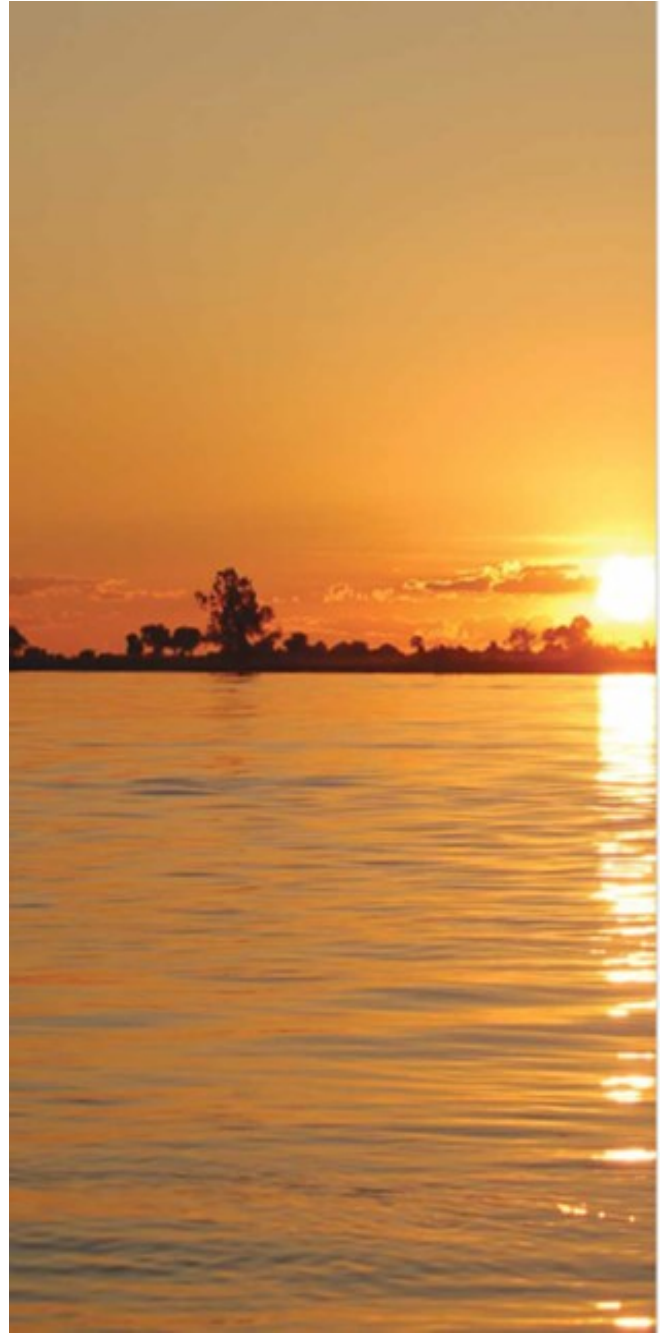
The development projects carried out by Turkey in African countries through the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) provide significant contributions to these countries in areas such as health, education, agriculture and infrastructure. Hospitals, schools and water wells built in Somalia, Sudan and Niger increase the living standards of local people. In addition, scholarships and training opportunities provided to African youth through educational and cultural collaborations are among the important steps that will strengthen Türkiye-Africa relations in the long term.

Water in Africa

In Africa, the world's second-driest continent, the availability and access to water is more crucial to existence than it is almost anywhere else on Earth. Poverty is widespread and although it is rapidly urbanizing, the majority of its population is still rural-based and dependent on agriculture. In sub-Saharan Africa, 69 per cent of the population has no proper sanitation facilities, while 40 per cent has no reliable access to safe water (WHO/UNICEF 2008).

Thus, a large number of countries on the continent still face huge challenges in attempting to achieve the United Nations (UN), water-related Millennium Development Goals.

Water plays a central role in development, covering a broad cross-section of socio-economic aspects that include meeting people's basic needs, such as drinking and sanitation, demands from various economic sectors, food security, poverty, health, gender issues, governance issues, energy and transport. Water is indeed everyone's business, an essential resource to all aspects of soci-





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AFRICAN DESK-HPA
Hydropolitics Association-Türkiye

Africa's major transboundary river basins



Source: Africa Water Atlas-UNEP

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We need to build a future,
Where people live in harmony with nature

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