Water budget for basin development authorities

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This paper provides data for basin development authorities (Fig. 1) for formulation of basin development policy. Due to space constraints, only selected findings are presented below. Details of water consumption and demand residential urban and rural industrial, agricultural, irrigation and pastoralism which served as the basic for compilation of the presented data, could not be included for editorial limitations, methodology of this research is intensively discussed, in presentations by the same Author-titled “Water Resources Administration in Nigeria” presented at NMCS animal Conference in Itakpe and at Geocongress in Abuja (Schoeneich, 2003a, 2003b).

How much water have basin authorities?
Dynamic Water Resources of BDAs are presented in figure 2. The map shows that there is little water in northern RBDAs, only 2 km³/s in Chad BDA, and much water in southern RBDAs as much as 106 km³/a in Benin-Owena RBDAs. The disparity between north and south is even clearer when presentation is made in cubic metres of water per square metre of land.

Then Total Dynamic Water Resources in Chad BDA are 0.019 m³/m²/a, Sokoto-Rima RBDA has 0.019 m³/m²/a, while Benin-Owena and Cross River BDAs have respectively 1.655 and 2.586 m³/m²/a. In terms of Utilization Dynamic Water Resources, northern BDAs are also worse. In Sokoto-Rima RBDA Utilizable Dynamic Water Resources constitute only 23% Total Dynamic Water Resources, while in Niger Delta BDA they make as much as 70% of the Total Resources. Total Dynamic Water Resources in this paper are only those generated within Nigeria. They do not include inflow from Cameroon and Niger Republics.

Water budget of the basin for 2003
Water budget for year 2003 is shown in Figure 3. With few exceptions, all RBDA are showing heavy surplus of Utilizable Dynamic Water Resources above year 2003 water consumption. This is not due to wealth of water resources, because in Savanna located RBDA water resources are poor, but due to insufficient development of irrigated agriculture which should be the leading water consumer. The exceptions are: Hadeja-Jama’are RBDA where irrigation is fairly well advanced, and Sokoto-Rima, Upper Niger, Lower Niger RBDA where main component of water consumption is generated of electricity from water flowing from Niger.

Ultimate water budgets for the basin
Ultimate water demand is the demand existing at a time when all environmental resources in RBDAs are fully developed. Extrapolating the pace at which BDAs progressed in period 1976 to 2003, it may well take another 2667 years (proof is in full version of this paper), or rather never-never because much earlier social bomb may explode. Ultimate water budget is presented in Figure 4. The Figure shows, that BDAs located in rain forest will have huge surplus of water above the Ultimate Water Demand, while BDAs located in savanna will suffer from huge water deficit.

Conclusion
Basin Development Authorities cannot accomplish purpose for which were created, without knowledge of environmental resources under their jurisdiction, water being one of these resources. No river basin can be developed without knowledge of utilizable-dynamic water resources, without knowledge of acreage of irrigable land, and size of population for which jobs in irrigated agriculture must be created. Without this information, no basin development policy can be ever formulated. Data presented in this paper on water resources, water consumption and demand fill the existing gap. More information is available in the full version of this paper.

References

Krzyżtof Schoeneich, Department of Geology, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.
Figure 1. INTRODUCING RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES. Please note that the boundaries between the authorities do not follow watersheds. They are administrative boundaries existing on 15th June 1974, when the first ten Basin Authorities were created by the Federal Government.

Figure 2. DYNAMIC WATER RESOURCES. Note the correlation between Dynamic Water and rainfall – little in the Chad BMA and much more in the Cross River. Legend to the background map: 1 - Isohyet of mean annual rainfall, in millimetres.
Figure 3.

Figure 4.