
BOOKS AND CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

6 .C.A. Mumma- Martinon & Bernard (2010). *Shared Waters Shared Opportunities: Hydro politics in East Africa*. Dar es Salam Tanzania: French Institute for Research in Africa, Jesuit Hakimani Centre and Mkuki Na Nyota Publishers Ltd

ABSTRACT

The importance of watercourses to human life and development cannot be overemphasized. From communication, trade, agriculture and the location of human settlements, they have played an immeasurable role **Calas**. Almost 60% of Africa lies within shared rivers and lake basins. The Nile is shared by more than seven nations, the Zambezi by six, and the Congo by nine. With populations on the rise, many countries have been labelled 'water scarce' nations, and in fifteen years it is predicted that many people on earth will be exposed to water shortage consequences such as famine and disease. Thirteen African nations already suffer 'water stress' and soon another twelve will join the list unless something is done to thwart the problem.

On March 20, 2009 in Nairobi, **Hekima College** collaborated with **Jesuit Hakimani Centre** and the **French Institute for Research in Africa** (IFRA) to host the Hekima College Water Day Academic Seminar with the theme 'Shared Waters, Shared Opportunities'. This book is the result of critical research and presentations by internationally renowned scholars, researchers and experts, and students of the Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations - Hekima College.

For most of 2009 Kenya suffered severe problems caused by flooding which took many lives and destroyed homes and important infrastructures. It highlighted the issues of water management and water conflicts, not only in Kenya but in other parts of East Africa, as it was made abundantly clear that not only scarcity of water, but excess water, incorrectly managed, can be disastrous.

This timely, scholarly book presents discussions of the issues which underlie the major water crises in the region. They open the debate into the water problems of Kenya and East Africa in an effort to join the global campaign to find solutions to these difficulties.