



Water Allocation and Green Growth

Maarten Gischler
Climate, Energy, Environment & Water Department
Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs





NL aid policy 2012

Overarching goal: green growth (climate resilient)

Spearheads: water and food security

Water:

1. Safe delta's, improved river basin management (IWRM)
2. 25% water productivity increase in agriculture (AWM)
3. Improved access to safe drinking water supply/adequate sanitation & hygiene (WASH)



Water allocation reform: policy and practice

The great things all that water could produce, if only...

- Politicians were more rational
- Policies more coherent
- National frontiers drawn along water divides
- Water managers more in control of water flows
- The water market place more perfect
- Better information available at the right time
- Decisions more based on that information
- Water users more productive in general
- All water users vocal and heard
- Etc.



Water allocation reform: the role of economists

Make the business case for IWRM's contribution to:

- Getting 70% more food on 9 bln peoples' plates in 2050
- Powering economies that grow at 5-10%/year
- Mitigating flood or disaster risk for millions
- Raising water productivity at field level

...at policy and at operational level

...at different scales for different audiences



Water allocation reform tools a donor would want

Diverse world – versatile tools

Different starting points and development trajectories

Tools for integrated analysis

- At policy and at operational level
- Drivers of water demands
- Non-rational decision making

While keeping in mind that large gains in the economic value that water helps create may be made outside the realm of water allocation