An analysis of micro-level water policy implementation in Nigeria: a Political Sociological approach

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Political sociology of the Policy Process

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Problem statement- A governance crisis

- 44.5mEuros 1999-2008
- 50% of WASH projects fail two years after
- 70% of dams are currently not working or to capacity
- 45,000 of 80,000 boreholes not functioning

What has been done?

Political will- Hammond Murray-Rust, 2015; Lane, 2012; Moe & Rheingans, 2006

Institutional challenges - Akpabio, 2012; Akhionbare, et al., 2012; Akindele and Adebo, 2006

Policy inconsistencies - Chukwu, 2015; Akpabio, 2012; 2007

Socio-economic challenges -Yusuf & Akashe, 2014

Legal and administrative issues - Goldface – Irokalibe, 2010

Financial limitations - Akpabio, et al., 2007a; Adekalu & Ogunjimi, 2003; Okafor, 1985

A new approach

Identified issues in literature **+** National agenda post 2015

Rethink governance processes and policy mechanisms (stakeholder engagement and coordination) as spaces where multiple actors compete for access to water resources.

This approach considers:

- Diversity- the heterogeneous nature of the Nigerian state
- Complex political arrangement
- Contextual - local socio-politics
- Scale- scalar politics

Research Questions

- Who are the relevant actors—institutions, individuals and social networks—and how and why do they frame their interests within and outside of existing mechanisms and processes (formal and informal) of stakeholder engagement and coordination?
- How do these framings impact on water project outcomes?

Literature Review

Governance

- **Polycentric, Multilevel** - OECD, (2015); Ostrom, (2009)
- **Good Governance** - Lautze, et al., (2011)

Integrated Water Resources Management - GWP, (2000)

- **Hegemonic discourse -** Mukhtarov, 2014; Saravanan, et al., 2009; Molle, 2008;
- **Discountenance for contextual conditions**-Mukhtarov, (2014)
- **Stakeholder engagement** – (Akhmouch & Clavreul, 2016; Daegu, 2015; Daniell & Barreteau, 2014; Mollinga, 2008)
- **Coordination** - (Pahl-Wostl, et al., 2012)

Research Rationale

- The lack of empirically grounded concepts around water governance systems in Nigeria to improve theoretical development.

- The need to develop and implement strategies in water governance that are contextually appropriate and responsive to scalar realities.

- The need to evaluate IWRM policy principles with the intention of creating more robust, practical and effective intervention.
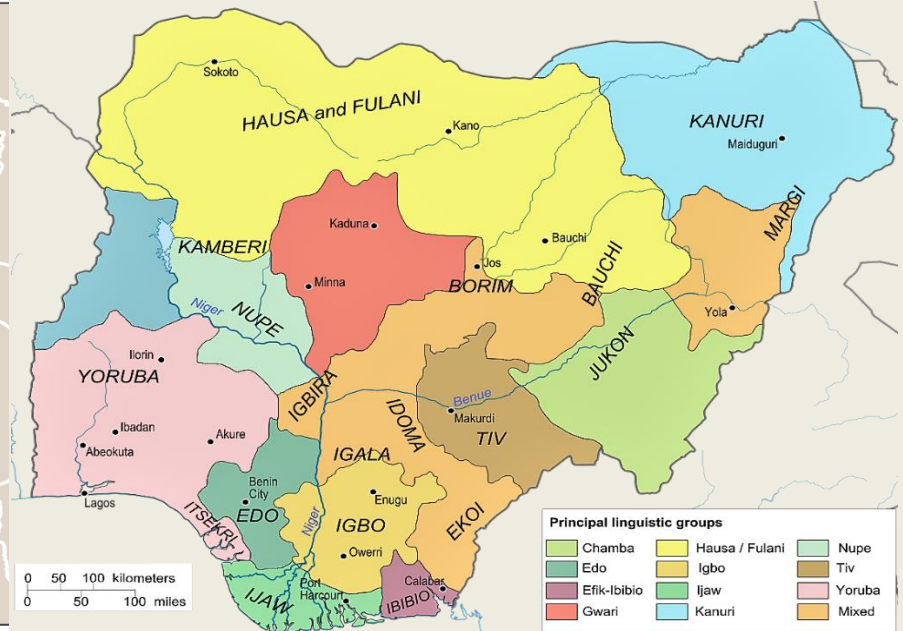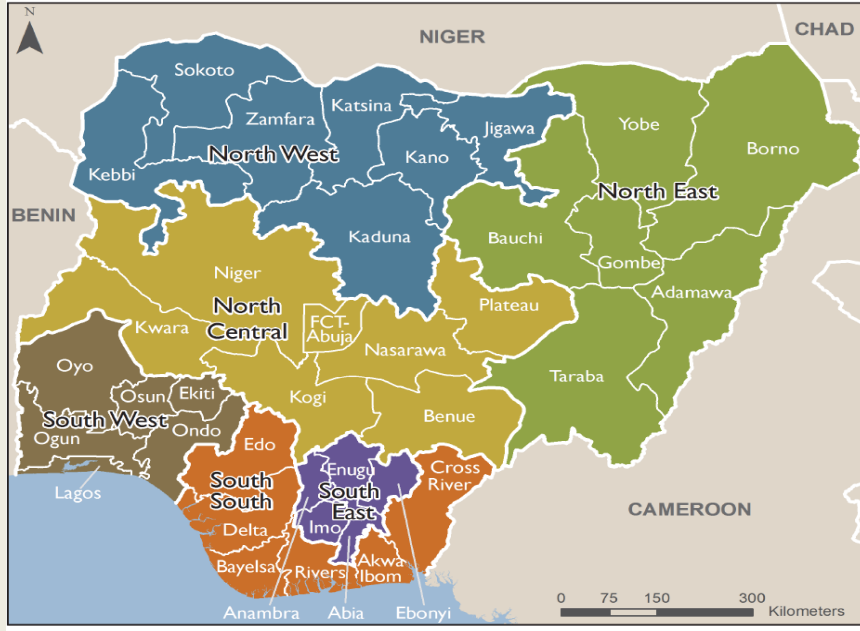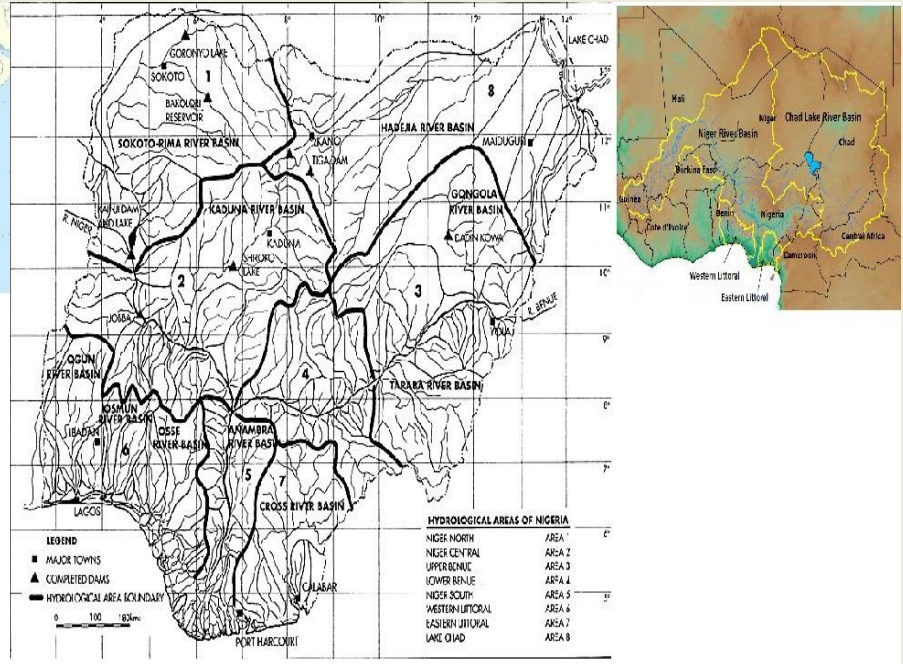
Major donors and aid agencies in Nigeria's water sector

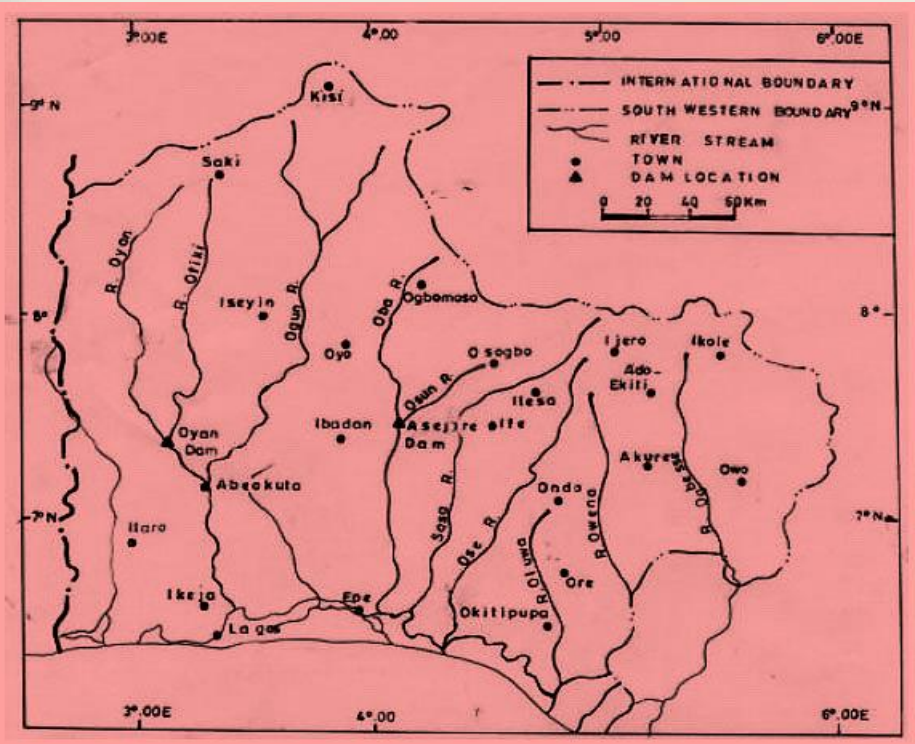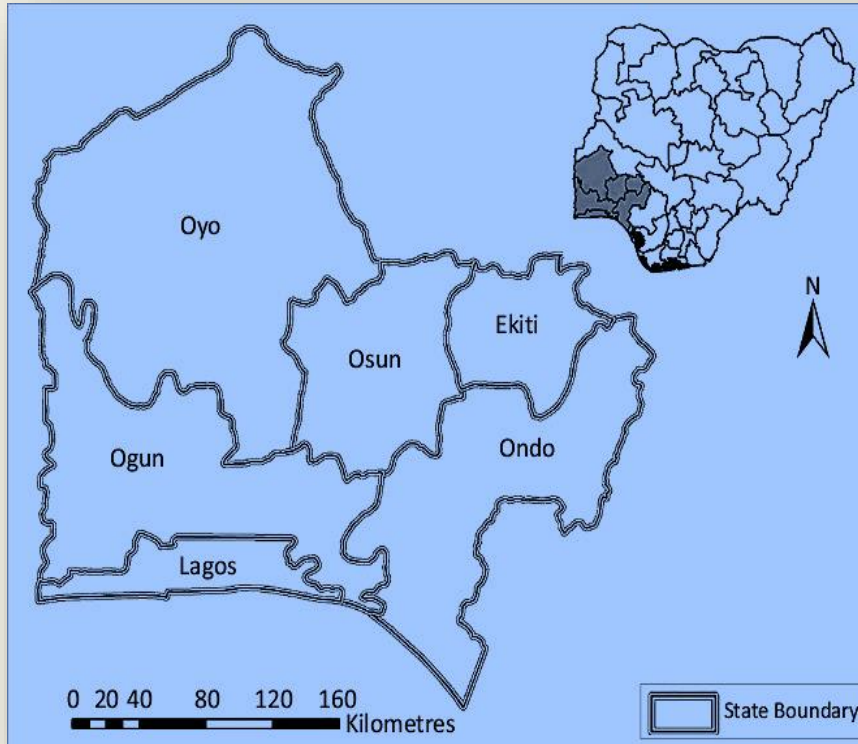| Non State Actors	Impact	Role	Influence
African Development Bank (ADB)	Rural and urban Water and Sanitation projects	Funding	Capacity-building, institutional support, legal and policy reforms
African Development Fund (ADF)	Rural and Urban Water and Sanitation projects- WASHCOMs	Funding	Capacity-building, legal and policy reforms
European Union (EU)	Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Project (WSSSRP), Support to Reforming Institutions Program (SRIP).	Funding (counterpart-75/25)	Institutional and policy reforms
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	Rural water supply, development of National Water Resources Masterplan (NWRMP), catchment management plans (CMP)	Funding, technical support	Management and administrative reforms
United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund-UNICEF)	Rural water supply, provision of sanitation and hygiene facilities, institutional capacity development for WASH, disaster management	Advocacy, administrative	Capacity-building
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Rural water supply, sanitation and hygiene education, community development	Funding, administrative, advocacy	
Water Aid	Public and stakeholder participation	Advocacy/ administrative/ services provision, donor coordination	Capacity building, attitudinal change
World Bank	Water infrastructure	Funding, donor coordination	Infrastructure development
Coca-Cola Foundation	Water and Development Alliance (WADA) project	Funding	Capacity, attitudinal change
UK Department for International Development (DFID)	WASH	Funding	Training, capacity-building

Source: Author's compilation

Nigeria in context

Selection of Study Area

Two interrelated reasons

- Social and ethno-cultural homogeneity
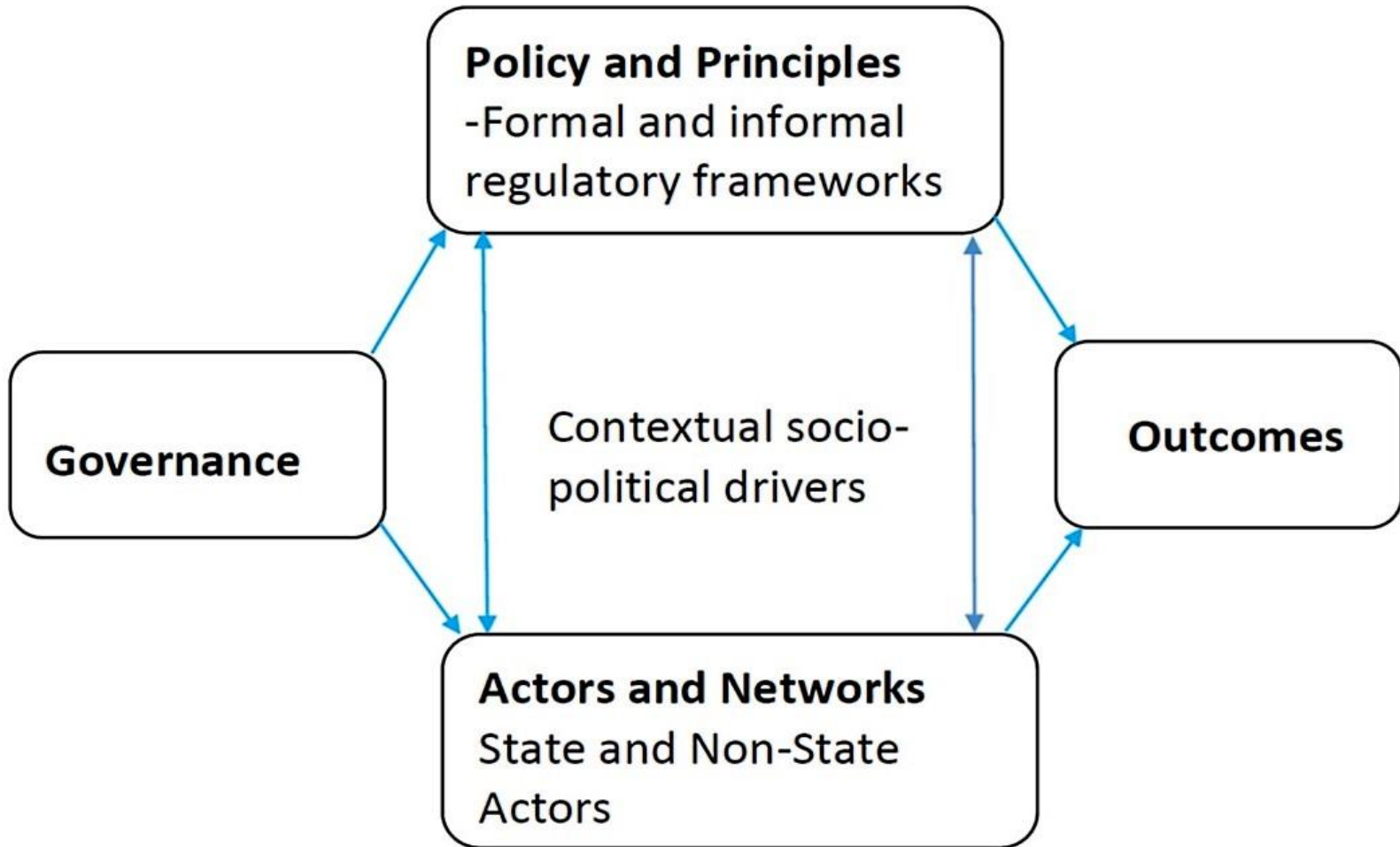- Hydrologically distinct river basin

Research strategy - Case Study
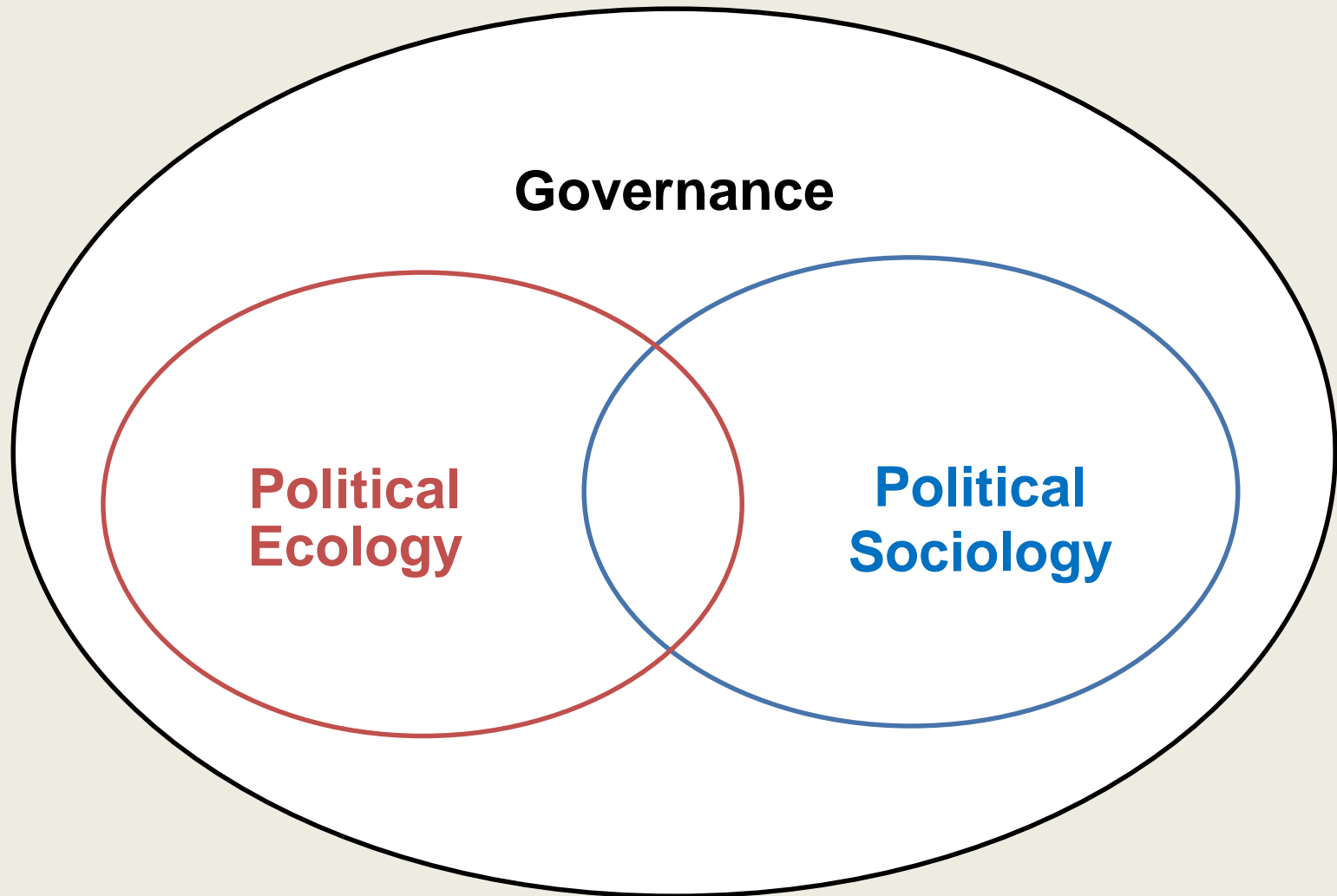
Key differences expected in the case studies	
Scale	Interactions and interplay processes in each governance regime is expected to occur on different scalar dimensions (Daniell & Barreteau, 2014; Cash, et al., 2006)
Policy implementation	The pattern of policy implementation is assumed to differ between governance regimes
Actors interests /frames	Normative and practical (drivers of decision-making) will differ between governance regimes
Context	Variations in socio-political circumstances

Conceptual framework

Governance-Outcomes matrix: The interrelationship between actors and policies

Proposed theoretical framework for the study of Nigeria's water governance

Methodology

Ethnography (Rhodes, 2015; Schartz, 2013; Bayard De Volo & Schatz, 2004)
Political and institutional ethnography

Hermeneutics - (Yanow, 2000, 2007; Gadamer, 1996)
The hermeneutical circle – Reading, Reflective writing, interpreting

Critical Discourse Analysis - Chouliaraki and Fairclough, 1999; Wodak, 2008; Fairclough, 2013) **Dialectical-relational; Dialectical-historical**

Four domains of Water Politics-Mollinga (2008)

The everyday politics of water resources management
The politics of water policy in the context of sovereign states.
Inter-state hydropolitics
The global politics of water-policy trajectories and ideologies

Operational assumptions of Political Sociology in this study

-Sees every actor as a potential decision-maker with the 'latent 'power to influence decisions

-used to uncover issues and frames of 'potential or hidden' decision-makers

-implicitly questions the theoretical assumptions around elite power in sociological interactions especially in the informal arenas

Preliminary findings - Interstate Politics

Timeline of Iganna mini water scheme: Ownership and Management

Year	Ownership	Management/Coordinating agency	Status
1982	'Old' Oyo state	ONADEP	Constructed
1989	'Old' Oyo state	ONADEP/OYSADEP	Reticulated
1991	'New' Oyo state	OYSADEP	Moribund
2017	Oyo State	WCOS	TBC…July 2017??

Timeline of Asejire water supply scheme: Ownership and Management

Year	Ownership	Management/Coordinating agency	Status
1972	Federal Government of Nigeria	Old Oyo state	Constructed
1991	Federal Government of Nigeria	Oyo state- WCOS	Reticulated

Everyday Politics- Iganna scheme

- **Intraethnic politics-** contestation of space and access - Arikeuyo and Ago Are areas
- **Emerging/hidden powerful stakeholders**-youths-how "powerful" are the elites??
- **Key Actors** –businesses (food vendors, hotel owners, drycleaners, butchers, water vendors, households
- **Unequal access to water** created by formal and informal elites.
- No evidence of stakeholder consultation for long-term management purposes

Lessons

- Theoretical
- policy/project implementation boundaries of
- Policy process theories/frameworks
- Appropriate level/scale of intervention

Comments, questions and suggestions