Messages for the science – policy dialogue

Sylvester Mpandeli
Coordinator: Water – Energy – Food Nexus
sylvesterm@wrc.org.za
Governance

.pbility within governments should be created to deal with WEF nexus issues.

We need a cross-cutting plan/policy that will address WEF issues in an integrated way.

We need to go beyond political shelf-lives so that programmes need to go beyond the 5 years; but it needs a mandate and clear directions.

We need to discourage the “siloh” mentality.
Governance cont...

✓ Strong governmental component (we need to bring WEF nexus into government first only then all other actors can play out), but power needs to be acknowledged from other actors; we need to understand power relations.

✓ Need to bring in politics: which is the authoritative allocation of resources.

✓ We need WEF-champions from management that can appreciate issues of all the Nexus elements – W E F; they negotiate across the sectors and lobby for the different sectors.
Management

✓ Nexus is not just about biophysical systems, also governance, relationships, policies.

✓ Nexus provides mutual benefits at all levels and also at different scales.

✓ Many regional and national structures could engaged in the WEF nexus approach.

✓ Different political powers across the sectors of the nexus, some are stronger than others, some levels of government stronger and higher influence need to work together society, environment etc.
Management


- International treaties have a role in securing funding support
Observation (Data and information)

- Reliable, near-real-time, free data.
- Climate forecast is important, planning e.g. in agriculture, firebreak burning, water management etc.
- We need to turn data into information
- We can use EO to make better decisions on water and food.
- Explore opportunities to use citizen data, e.g., school observation programs, open source data sources.
Observation (Data & information)

- Information and data needs to be made available.
- Development agendas need to be transparent and democratic.
- Donors agendas have to fit into the regions developmental trajectory.
- Appreciation of complexity and that national decisions have regional consequences and impacts.
Linking WEF nexus to SDGs

The United Nations Sustainable Development Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals will be held from 25 to 27 September 2015 in New York and convened as a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly.
Thank you for your attention