

# Twining Agreement

1. The Lake Naivasha Riparian Association is a CBO concerned with the sustainable wise use of Lake Naivasha and the Malewa River Basin. It is open to all individuals and groups who share these views. It was responsible in the early 1990s for reports and political lobbying which resulted in the declaration of Lake Naivasha as a 'Ramsar' site of International Importance in 1995. It was the author of the Ramsar Management Plan, incorporating the needs of all stakeholders in the lake basin, presented to Government in 1999. The Lake Naivasha Management Plan and the Lake Naivasha Management Committee have now been gazetted by the Kenya Government under Gazette Notice 7704 and Legal Notice 108 of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004.

The Association is committed to wise use of the water resources of the basin in the principles of Integrated River Basin Management. It has made great efforts over the past decade to consult with all water stakeholders in the lake basin and educate them about sustainability. It now seeks to extend this vision to the whole river basin. It is an 'evolving' HELP basin in the UNESCO-IHP initiative-

[http://portal.unesco.org/sc\\_nat/ev.php?URL\\_ID=3743&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/sc_nat/ev.php?URL_ID=3743&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)

2. The Allerton Research and Educational Trust is an independent CBO which has been operating in the Eye Brook catchment, a tributary of the River Welland, since 1992. The Trust has its own farm at Loddington in central England. It carries out research into environmental issues associated with agriculture in the context of its own farm business, and demonstrates sustainable environmental management each year to 1000 – 2000 agricultural professionals from all over England. The Trust contributes to UK government agri-environment policy, especially that relating to wildlife conservation. The Trust's research programme is headed by Dr Chris Stoate, who has broad experience of multi-disciplinary research on farmland in the UK, southern Europe and Senegambia (West Africa; soil management within subsistence groundnut/millet system). He sees transfer of knowledge from different systems as a key stimulus for more enlightened thinking about, and management of, natural resources. The relationship between soil management and water quality is a major theme for research at Loddington, including the EU-funded project 'SOWAP' (SOil and WAtER Protection) and UK government-funded 'MOPS' (Mitigation of Phosphorus and Soil loss to water) and 'PARIS' (Phosphorus from Agriculture: Riverine Impact Study). PARIS and other aquatic related projects are in collaboration with Dr David Harper of Leicester University Biology Department who has considerable experience of sustainable management of water resources in the UK and abroad. The Allerton Trust and the Department of Biology work with the main stakeholders of the Welland Basin (Environment Agency, District and County Councils, East Midlands Regional Assembly, and individual farmers) to promote the Welland's Integrated River Basin Management; it is an operational HELP basin under the UNESCO-IHP programme

[http://portal.unesco.org/sc\\_nat/ev.php?URL\\_ID=3800&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/sc_nat/ev.php?URL_ID=3800&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)

3. The Przedborski Landscape Park is a governmental administrative body located in the Pilica Basin. The Park is responsible for the preservation, protection and management of public access to valuable areas of the Pilica Basin. The protection is based on the following activities:-

- assessment of any investment activities which can affect the natural and cultural heritage of the region,
- promotion of agrotourism
- facilitating NGOs' participation in active in nature protection

- educational program for schools and public

In the area of Integrated Water Basin Management, the Park cooperates with the University of Lodz on the UNESCO-UNEP Demonstration Project "Application of Ecohydrology and Phytotechnologies for Water Resources Management and Sustainable Development". The project is developed in the river-reservoir system of the Pilica River Basin (central Poland). It facilitates verification of the concepts and demonstrates the validity of the methods in the Basin. The methods are

1. Improvement of water quality and reduction of eutrophication in the Pilica river, which feeds Sulejow Reservoir, a recreational area for the City of Lodz (800,000 inhabitants).
2. Reduction of health hazards in the reservoir due to the presence of toxic algal blooms
3. Conversion of nutrients from point- and non-point sources of pollution into bioenergy using plantations of willow (*Salix* spp.)
4. Providing new employment opportunities and increasing awareness of water and related issues.

The Park is cooperating with farmers on agrotouristic use of the region as well as promotion of good agriculture practices, a key issue in the region. The Pilica Basin is also part of the UNESCO-IHP HELP Programme (as Malewa and Welland). Its Management Plan will be elaborated according to time schedule of the implementation of EU Water Framework Directive. The Przedborski Landscape Park with the cooperation of University of Lodz will facilitate this process through stakeholders meetings as well as through the implementation of IWM in the Management Plan specifically related to the protection of nature and cultural heritage in the region. The Przedborski Landscape Park is also cooperating with farmers and NGOs in the region to increase opportunities for public participation in IWM, which is difficult to achieve in this country as a consequence of the long central/administrative management system of communism after the Second World War. Further information about the Pilica is provided at the HELP web site: [http://portal.unesco.org/sc\\_nat/ev.php?URL\\_ID=3790&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/sc_nat/ev.php?URL_ID=3790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201) and the UNESCO Demosite <http://www.biol.uni.lodz.pl/demosite/pilica/en/home.html>

4. The Twinning Agreement will last initially for 2 years from the date of signing this agreement. Its objective will be to organise exchanges of personnel, which both increase the experience and knowledge of them about basin management in the two different parts of the world and enable them to apply the specific new skills learnt in their own home basin. The IRBM principles will be promoted more widely in each basin, through the educational activities of the personnel during their visits and through stakeholder engagement.

5. The goals of the Twinning will be measured by the movement towards a fully Integrated River Basin Management Plan for each basin, which in the timescale of the initial twinning, will be the production of parts of an eventual plan in partnership with other basin organisations. At the present time, each basin has management plans for its own lake sites (Lake Naivasha (Malewa), Rutland Water (Welland) are Ramsar sites, Sulejow Reservoir (Pilica)) but does not have a whole-basin Plan. The Welland Basin Plan, the responsibility of the Environment Agency under the EU Water Framework Directive and scheduled for 2008 production, will be assisted through stakeholders' meetings to be organised by the Allerton Trust and Leicester University over the next 2 years 2006-7 as part of their involvement in the PARIS project and the other related projects (above). The Malewa Basin Plan will be achieved through the involvement of LNRA with Government organisations (Ministry of Water, National Environmental Management Agency) to establish basin authorities, leading to a

Malewa Basin Plan. The Pilica Basin Plan will also be achieved through the involvement of similar stakeholders, but with the added problem of their reluctance to become involved instilled by decades of central planning, that yet has to be overcome.

6. The success of the Twinning Agreement will be measured by the increased sharing of experiences from the visits between river basins, with the stakeholders in the home basin. Our main aim is to increase the knowledge and experience of personnel from each country so that they become more effective in Basin Management and management of natural resources in their own catchments. Our second aim is to build the capacity of LNRA to be a more effective Basin Organisation in Kenya, a country with limited technical resources both in terms of personnel qualification and infrastructure. The third is to take experience of public involvement from the UK and Kenya to Poland, to build it up there.