

## CHAPTER 4

# BASIN MONITORING





## KEY MESSAGES



There are approximately 928 meteorological and 423 hydrometric stations in the Nile Basin. Over 70 percent of the meteorological stations measure either just daily rainfall totals or rainfall and temperature. Most hydrometric stations measure river or lake water levels. Monitoring of water quality, sediment transport in rivers, and groundwater are at their early stages in most countries. Data transmission from the stations to central data repository in most countries is manual.



The current total number of national monitoring stations in the Nile Basin countries is well below its historical maximum. Staff and financial resources to operate and maintain the complete national network of stations are limited in all countries. Automated data transmission using modern technology is being newly introduced in many countries. In all countries the potential use of data for real-time water resources management is not realized because of a lack of telemetry and data processing and management systems.



There have been national as well as regional initiatives to improve river basin monitoring in the Nile Basin. The Nile Basin Initiative has recently completed the design of a Nile Basin regional Hydromet system. This system will comprise a set of 323 meteorological and 79 hydrometric stations, groundwater and water quality laboratory strengthening and monitoring use of remote sensing for monitoring river basin processes. The system relies on existing monitoring stations to be upgraded to meet the requirements as a regional monitoring network with few new stations added where no current monitoring stations exist. The IGAD-HYCOS is another regional initiative that has supported member countries of the IGAD to upgrade their hydrological monitoring network; some of these stations are in the Nile Basin.

# INTRODUCTION

## Overview

This chapter presents the current state of water resources monitoring in the Nile Basin. The focus of the chapter is primarily on hydro-meteorological monitoring with additional information provided on monitoring of water quality and groundwater. The information in this chapter is based on data compiled by NBI from the riparian countries. No information was available for part of the Nile Basin that lies in Egypt and Eritrea. The monitoring network presented in this chapter includes only those networks that are operated by national agencies for hydrological and meteorological monitoring services. It doesn't include those monitoring stations that are established and operated by specialized agencies for specific purposes.

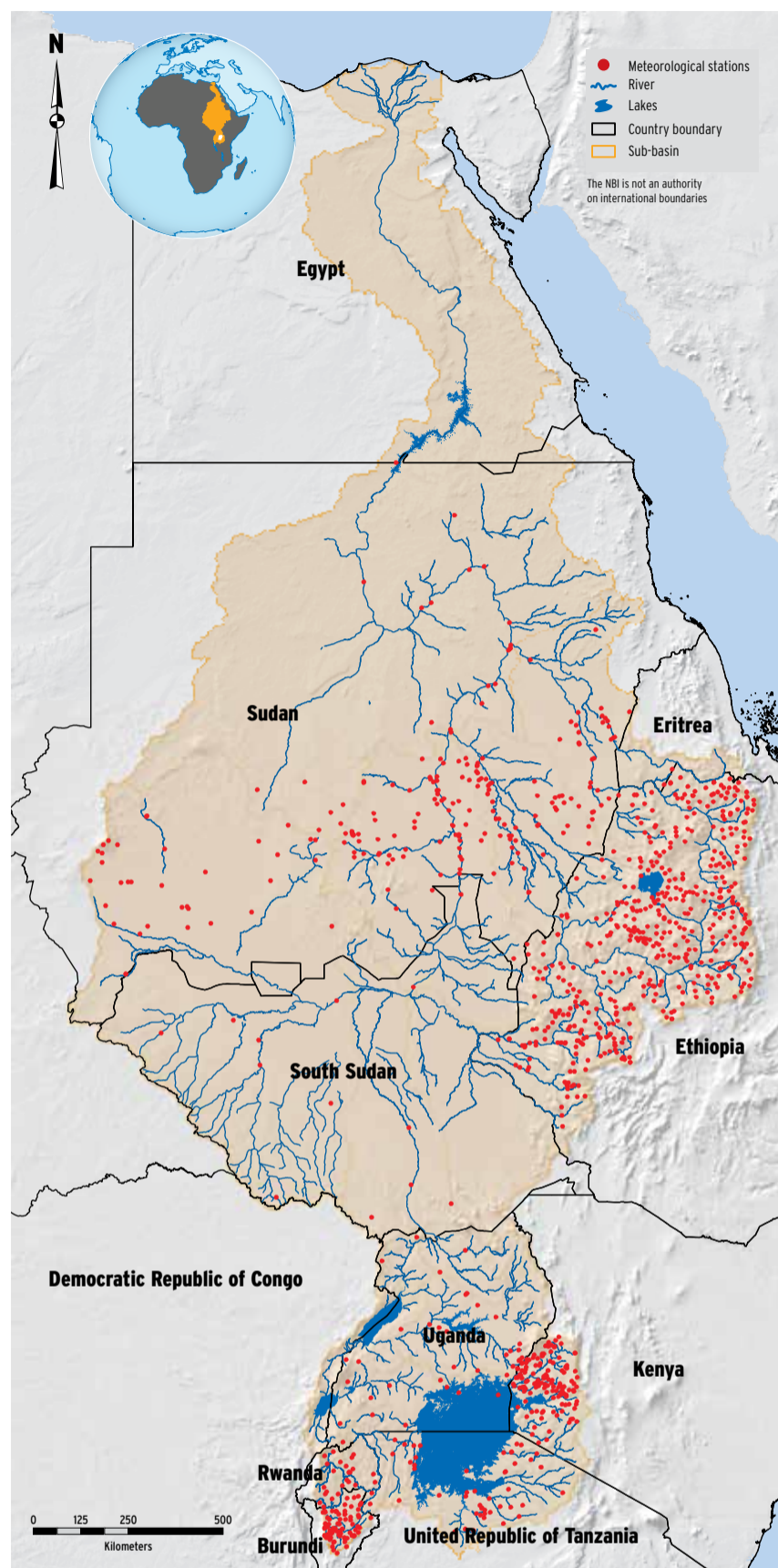
## Meteorological monitoring

There were 928 meteorological stations in the Nile Basin in the countries surveyed in 2014. Most (674) of these stations measure rainfall only or rainfall and temperature while the rest measure fuller set of

meteorological parameters. In addition to the stations that are established and maintained by National Meteorological Services agencies, there are other networks that have been put in place for specific purposes. An example of such special purpose networks is the 19 hydro-meteorological stations that are operated by the Kenyan Flood Diagnostics and Forecasting Centre (FDFC) in the Nzoia and Tana River basins. Such networks are not included in the Atlas.

Overall, basic meteorological variables of precipitation, temperature, relative humidity and evaporation are measured in all countries. Automated weather stations have been introduced in all countries though the distribution and area coverage greatly vary between countries.

Data transmission from the stations in most countries is manual. As can be seen from the table, telemetry is introduced in only five countries, namely, DRC, Ethiopia and Kenya. The telemetry system in DR Congo is part of the SADC- HYCOS.



Meteorological station at Entebbe, Uganda

### NBI countries, met stations summary

Country	Full Met Stations	Rainfall or rainfall and temperature measuring stations
Burundi	10	21
DR Congo	3	0
Ethiopia	99	397
Kenya	27	104
Rwanda	24	11
South Sudan	5	0
Sudan	38	48
Tanzania	17	25
Uganda	31	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>674</b>
		928

### National institutions responsible for meteorological monitoring

Country	Institution	Institution full name
Burundi	IGEBU	Institut Géographique de Burundi
DR Congo	METTELSAT	Agence Nationale de Meteorologie et de Teledetection par Satellite
Ethiopia	MOWR	Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity, National Meteorological Services Authority
Kenya	MEWNR	Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
Rwanda	MINIRENA	Ministry of Natural Resources
South Sudan	MEDIWR	Ministry of Electricity, Dams, Irrigation and Water Resources
Sudan	MWRE	Ministry of Water Resources and Electricity
Tanzania	TMA	Tanzania Meteorological Agency
Uganda	UNMA	Uganda National Meteorological Authority

### Existing meteorological monitoring capabilities

Country	Burundi	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Meteorological									
Automated stations	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Telemetry	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N
Precipitation	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Temperature	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Relative humidity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Evaporation	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

\*\* Capability recently introduced  
Note: the Survey didn't include Egypt\*

## Historical evolution of meteorological stations

In most countries, meteorological monitoring started in 1900's. The Hydromet Project (1967 – 1992) boosted river basin monitoring in the participating countries, namely, Egypt, DR Congo, Sudan, Uganda, Burundi, and Rwanda. Over the years, however, the number of monitoring stations declined in some of the countries. Charts are provided for Burundi and Uganda to indicate the historical growth and decline in number of meteorological stations for which data was available.

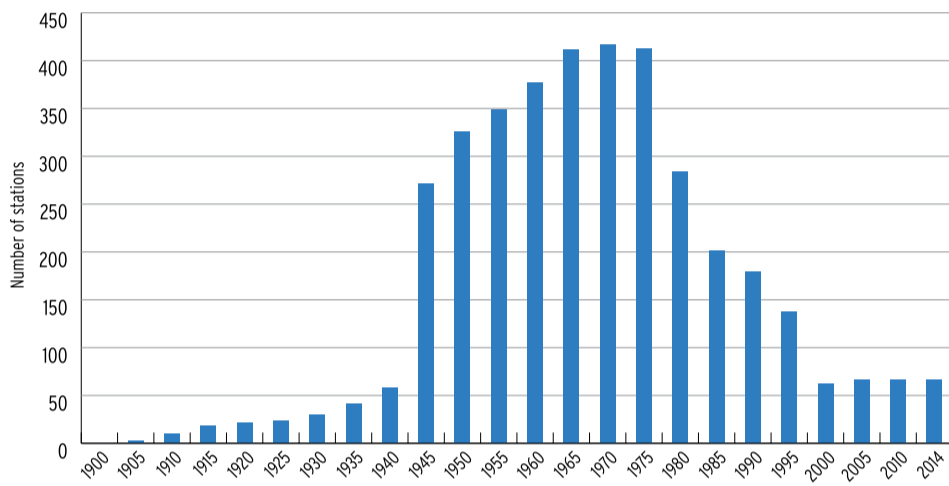


Evaporation pan

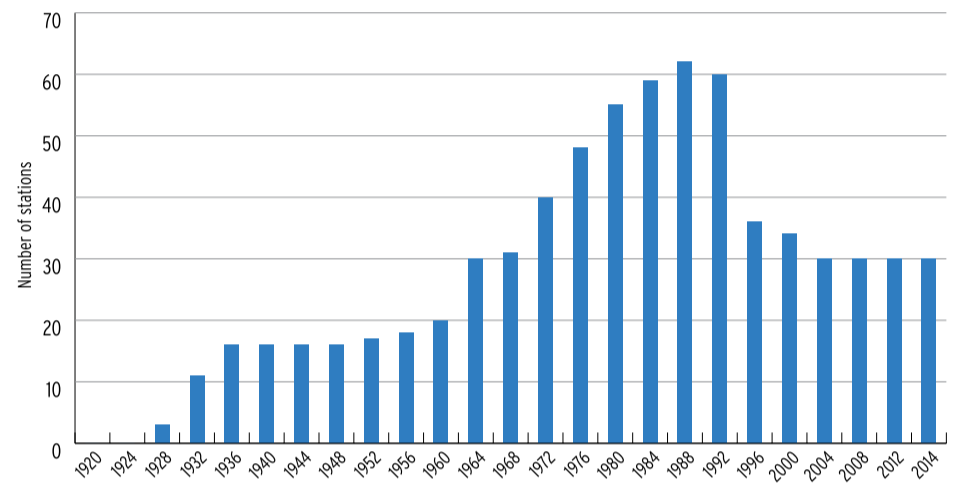


Wind vane

### Number of meteorological stations in the Nile Basin - Uganda



### Number of meteorological stations in the Nile Basin - Burundi



Meteorological station at Entebbe, Uganda

## Hydrometric monitoring

Hydrometric monitoring networks are defined as observations networks that primarily measure stream flow related parameters (primarily river/lake water levels and river discharge).

In 2014, there were 427 hydrometric stations in the countries included in the survey. These registered stations primarily measure river/lake water levels and river discharge. In very few stations, suspended sediment load at rivers are measured.

### NBI countries, hydrometric stations summary

Country	Hydrometric stations	Country	Hydrometric stations
Burundi	15	Sudan	18
Kagera	15	Blue Nile - Lower	7
DR Congo	0	Main Nile	8
Lake Albert	0	Tekeze-Atbara	3
Ethiopia	176	White Nile	0
Baro-Akobo-Sobat	27	Tanzania	19
Blue-Nile	126	Lake Victoria - Kagera	7
Tekeze-Atbara	23	Lake Victoria - Tanzania	12
Kenya	93	Uganda	66
Lake Victoria	87	Bahr el Jebel	1
Victoria Nile	6	Lake Albert	19
Rwanda	36	Lake Victoria - Kagera	2
Lake Victoria - Kagera	36	Lake Victoria - Uganda	14
South Sudan	5	Victoria Nile	30
Bahr el Ghazal	1		
Bahr el Jebel	2		
Baro-Akobo-Sobat	1		
White Nile	1		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>428</b>



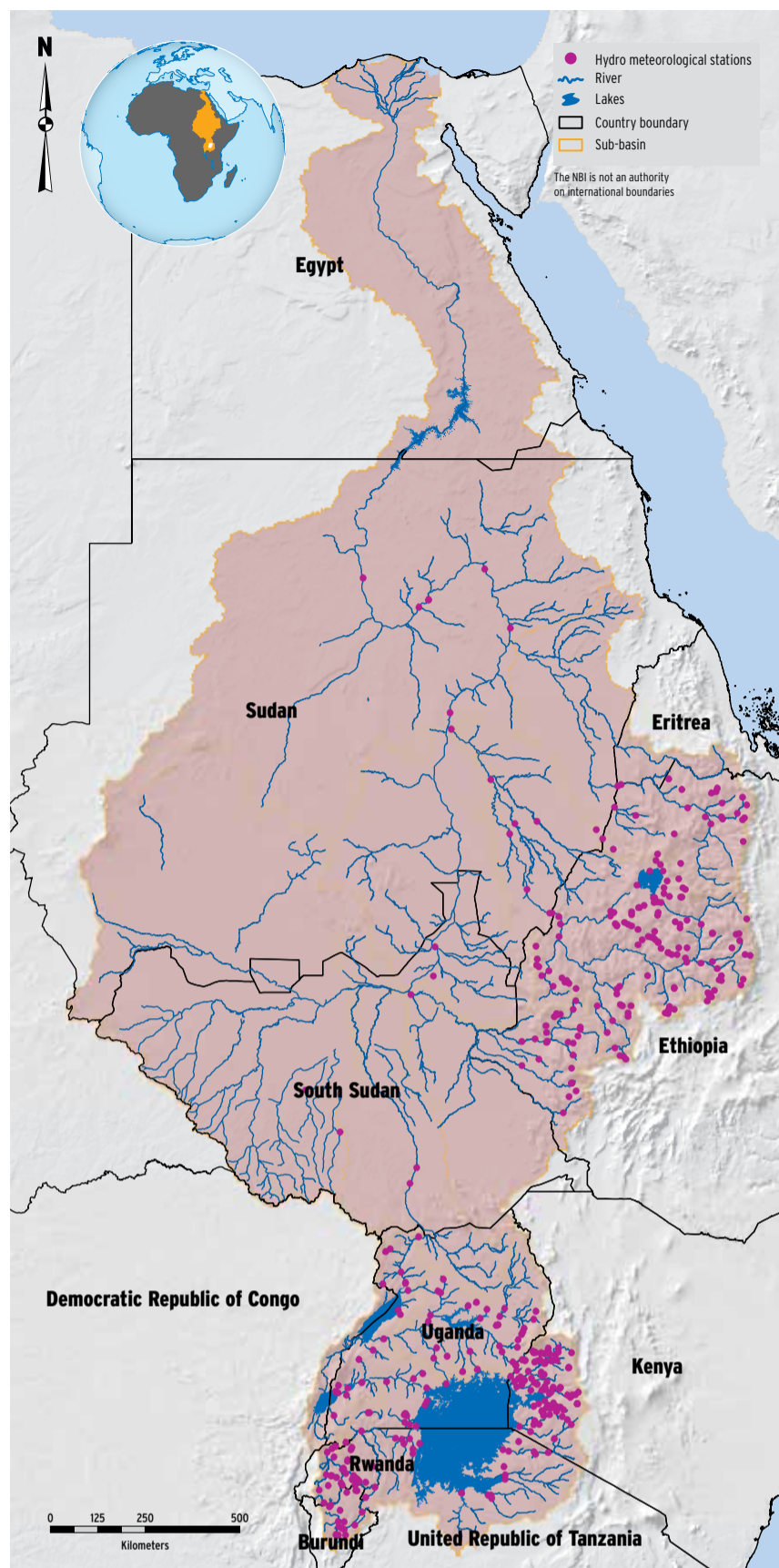
Photo: Kiwalbye  
River Nyamugasani at Lake Victoria inlet

Most of the gauging stations employ staff gauges as the only instrument for water level measurement. The available capabilities of the countries with respect to hydrometric monitoring are shown in the adjacent table.

Telemetry for automated data transmission has been introduced in Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania recently.

Water quality and sediment monitoring is practiced in very few countries, which is clearly a major gap in current monitoring networks in the Nile Basin. In most countries there is not sufficient capability (laboratories, mobile calibration labs, field sampling kits).

In most countries, groundwater monitoring is virtually non-existent. Comparatively, Uganda has the largest groundwater observation network that includes 30 groundwater monitoring stations.



### Existing hydrometric capabilities

Hydrometric	Burundi	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Automated stations	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Telemetry	N	N	Y*	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y
Water level	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Discharge	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Reservoir/Lake level	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

\*\* Capability recently introduced  
Note: the Survey didn't include Egypt"

### Existing water quality monitoring capabilities

Water quality/sediment	Burundi	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Basic water quality	Y	N	Y*	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Special water quality	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N
Sediment sampling	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y

\*\* Capability recently introduced  
Note: the Survey didn't include Egypt"

### Existing groundwater monitoring capabilities

Groundwater	Burundi	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Water level	Y	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
Water quality	Y	N	Y*	N	Y	N	N	N	N

\*\* Capability recently introduced  
Note: the Survey didn't include Egypt"

The situation with respect to data management and data communication capabilities is shown in adjacent table. None of the countries with the exception of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania employ systematic data storage and management tools for managing the hydro-meteorological data. Only in few countries, for example in Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania telemetry system has been introduced to support near-real time data transmission.

Existing data management and communication capabilities									
Data Management / Communication	Burundi	DR Congo	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Coop-data systems	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Auto-access	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

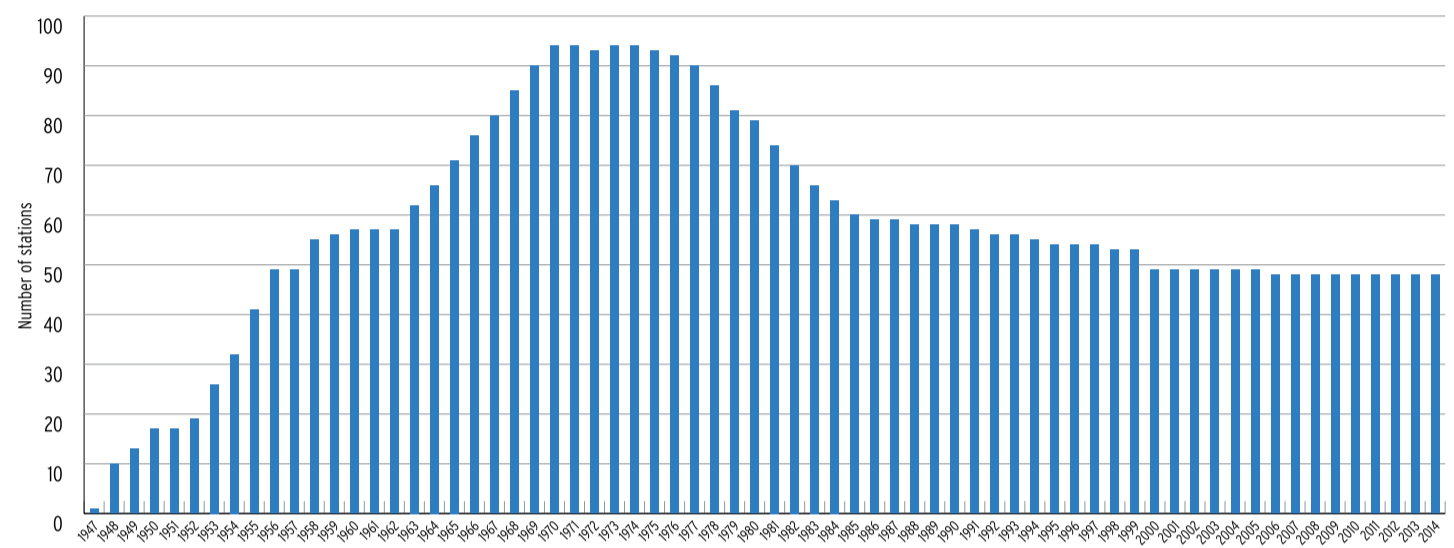
Note: the Survey didn't include Egypt"

### History of hydrometric monitoring stations

Uganda is a typical example of the development in national hydrometric monitoring stations. Expansion took place in the 1950's and lasted up to 1970's after which a decline took place. Presently the numbers seem rather stable, but this does not necessarily reflect an output in terms of a steady flow of reliable data.

The exception is Sudan, where measurement of river flow started as early as 1902. Over the years, there has been a general decline in the number of stations that are kept operational or added to the network. Graphs that show how the number of stations evolved in the last several decades are provided here for those countries for which reliable data have been obtained. It can be observed that the early 1950's and 60's exhibited expansion of the monitoring network as more and more stations were added. The late 1960's and early 1970's showed considerable increase in number of stations due to partly the implementation of the Hydromet project that was a collaboration project between countries: Egypt, DRC, Sudan, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda.

Number of hydrometric stations - Uganda



# CURRENT MONITORING NETWORK

## The Main Nile Sub-basin

The Main Nile Sub-basin: this sub-basin includes parts of Sudan and Egypt and includes, the Nile Delta, which is one of the most intensively cultivated lands in the world since millennia. The Main Nile sub-basin is the part of the Nile Basin, which receives least amount of rainfall. However, on the other hand, this is the part of Nile Basin which exhibits most of the consumptive water use. It accounts for approximately 80 percent of the total estimated water abstraction from the

Nile system for irrigation. In addition, evaporation from the High Aswan and Merowe dams account for about 13 – 14  $10^9\text{m}^3$  of water per year that is approximately 78 percent of all the evaporation from man-made reservoirs basin-wide. With increasing water demands under increased climatic variability, it is crucial to strengthen monitoring of water use patterns and evapo-transpiration in this part of the Nile Basin.

### Meteorological monitoring network

There are 26 meteorological stations in Sudan within the Main Nile sub-basin. The distribution of the stations is shown

in the map below. 11 stations are reported to measure the full range of meteorological parameters and the rest 7 measure daily rainfall totals only.



No	Name of Station	7	El Hudeiba	14	Damer	21	Rabwa Station
1	Abu Hammad	8	Shambat	15	Station no.6	22	Shaboola
2	El Showak	9	Eldamer	16	Turagma	23	Sodari
3	Dongola	10	Gumaiza	17	Zeidab	24	Um bader
4	Karima	11	Merowe Dam Axis Left Bank	18	Abu hamra	25	Um Karoam
5	Shendi	12	Algoz	19	Hamrat Alsheikh	26	Goz Ashger
6	Wadi Halfa	13	Bauga	20	Kogmer		



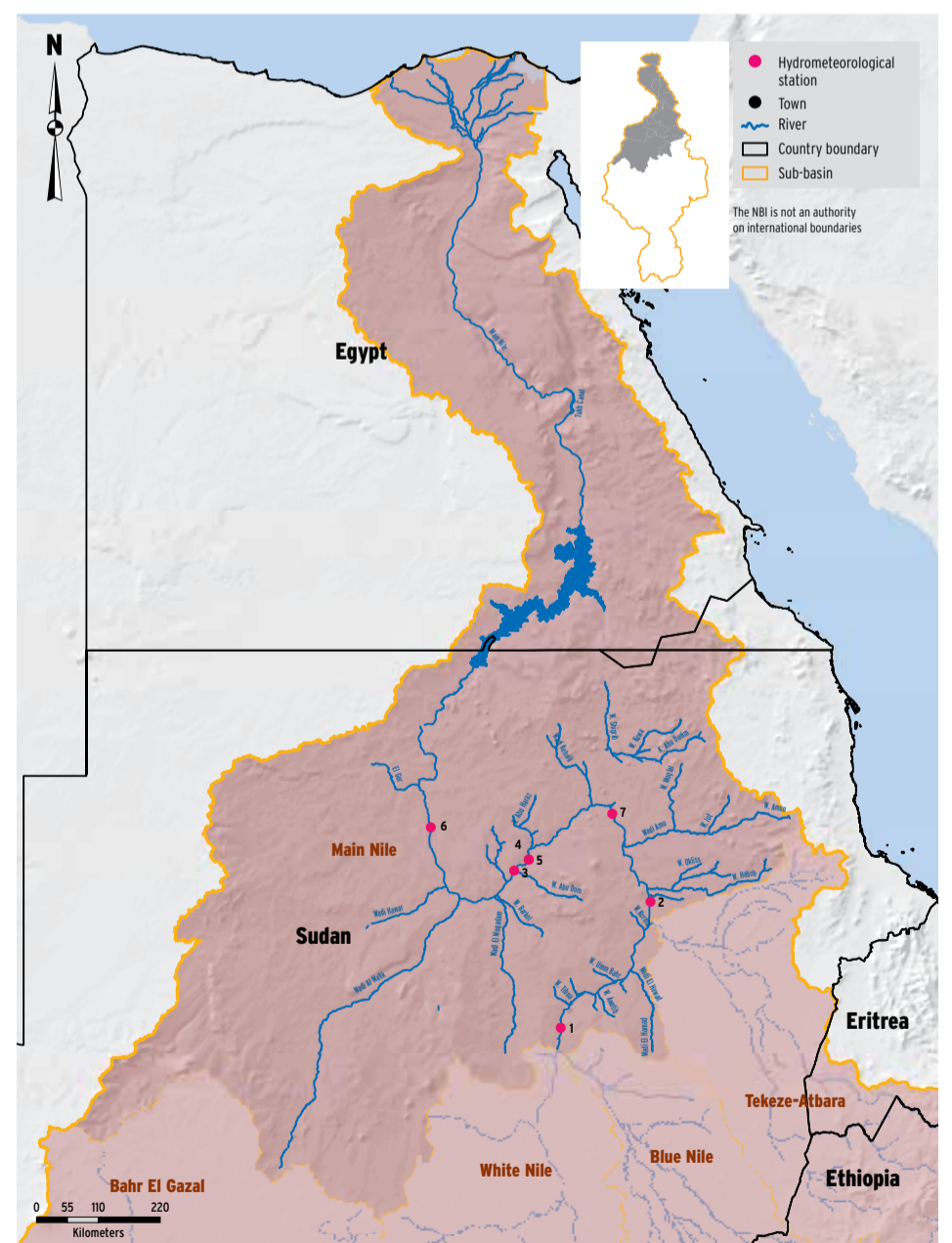
Stream gauge

### Hydrometric stations

There are 8 hydrometric stations in the sub-basin in Sudan. The number of stations in Egypt, i.e. downstream of the High Aswan Dam is not included in the survey results. The oldest station, Main Nile at Tamaniat was established in 1912 and, hence, has over 100 years of records. The ultimate downstream station before the Nile enters the High Aswan Dam is at Dongola, which was established in 1923. Three stations, namely, Tamaniat, Dongola, measure sediment loads in addition to

water level and discharge. A new station has been established recently at Merowe dam (commissioned in 2009).

Main issues that require strengthened monitoring in this sub-basin are water quality deterioration, sediment load and sand encroachment and water loss through river bank overflows. Dongola, Tamaniat and Hassanab stations are included in the Nile Basin Regional Hydromet Network with main strengthening required in sediment and water quality monitoring.



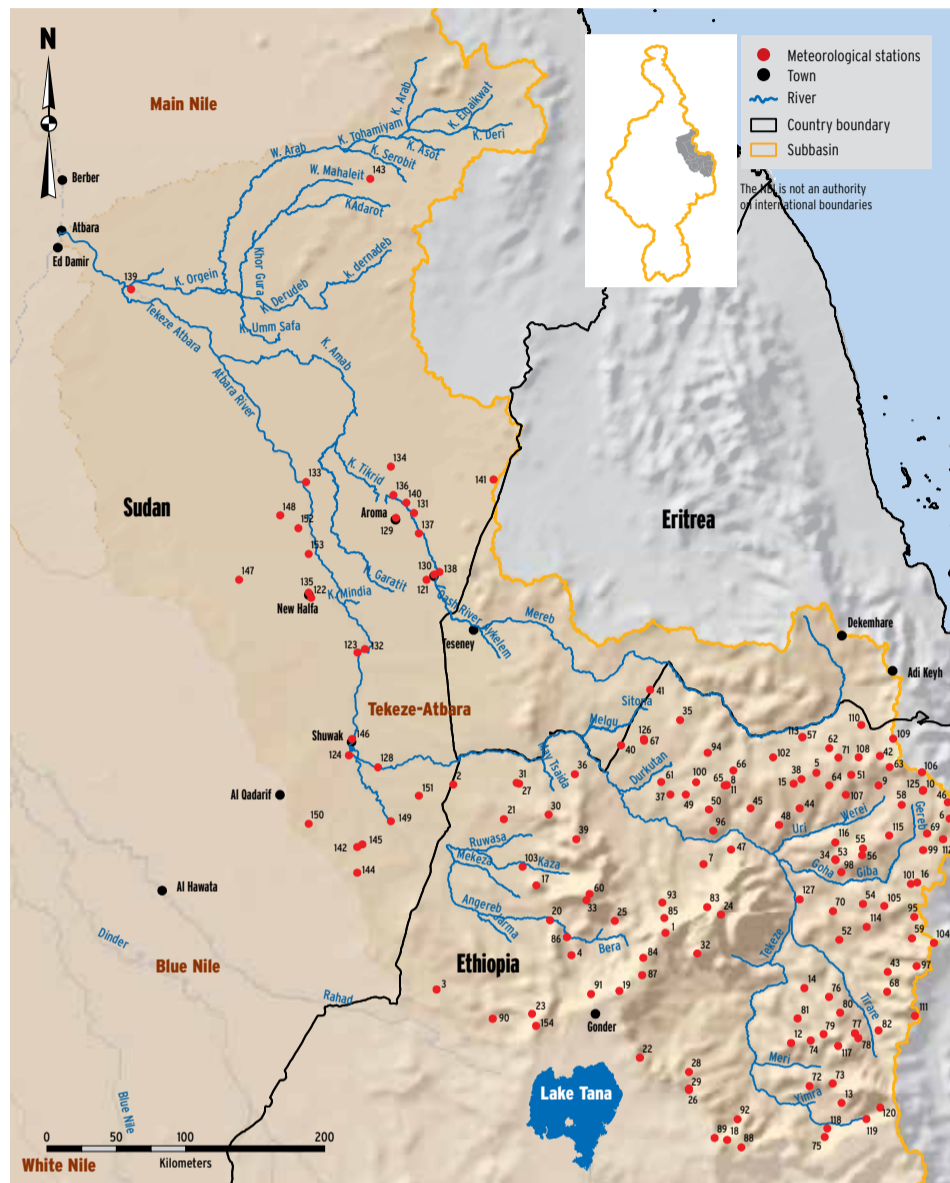
1	Tamanyat	3	Merowe Bridge	5	Merowe Dam Axis Upstream	7	EIkuru
2	Barbar	4	Merowe Dam Axis Downstream	6	Dongola		

# The Tekeze-Atbara Sub-basin

The Tekeze-Atbara Sub-basin: the Tekeze-Atbara drains the highlands of central – north Ethiopia. Its main rivers are the Tekeze (also known as Setit in its lower reaches), Gwang and Atbara, which constitutes the ultimate downstream river

reaches. The long-term average annual water yield of the sub-basin is approximately  $12 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^3$ . The rivers are highly seasonal in their flows. The rivers are used to supply water for hydropower generation and irrigation. There are three dams

in the sub-basin, the TK5 in Ethiopia (commissioned in 2009), Khashm el Girba in Sudan (commissioned in 1964) and the Atbara dam complex (also known as Rumela-Burdana dam, not yet operational).



## Meteorological monitoring network

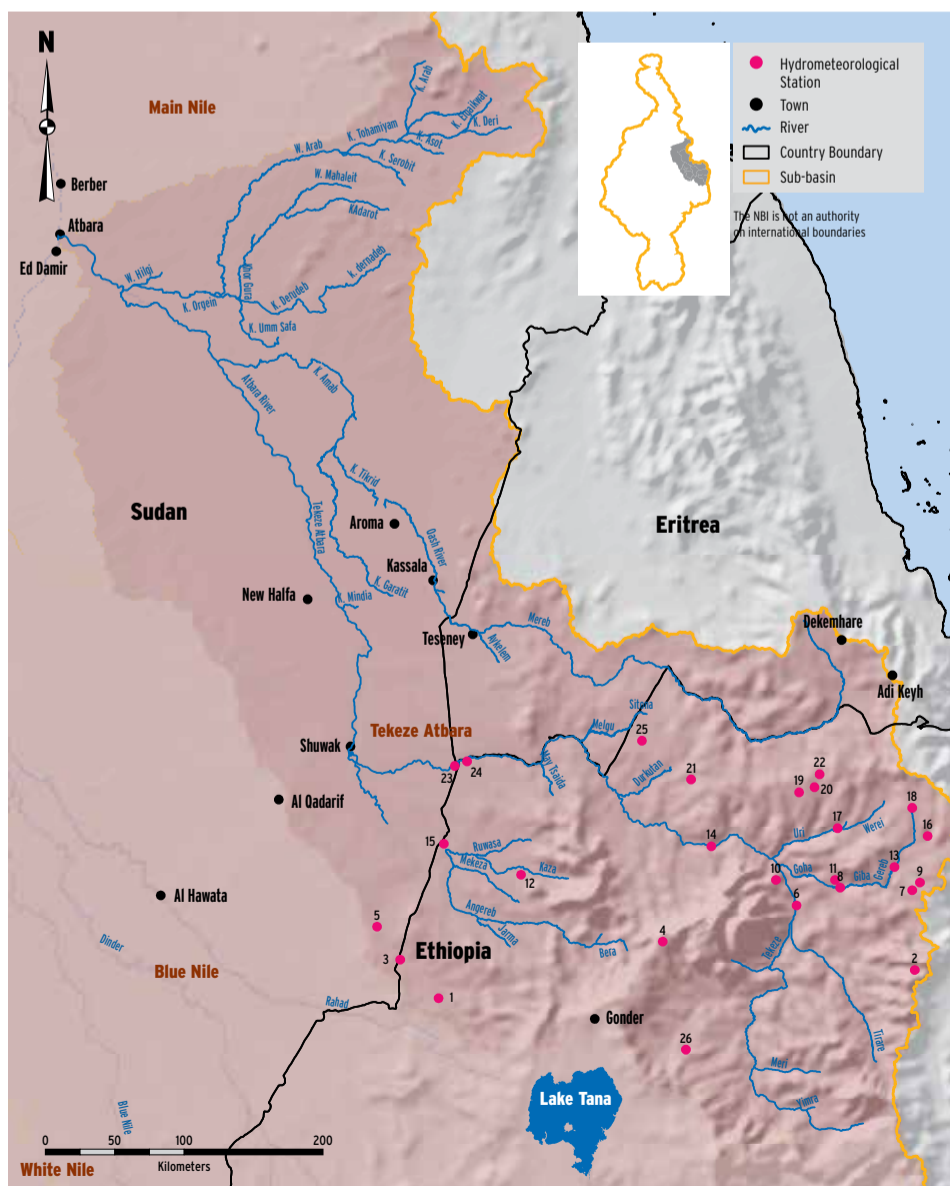
There are 136 meteorological stations in the sub-basin, with 128 of them in Ethiopia and 8 in Sudan. The distribution of the stations is shown in the map. 30 stations (26 in Ethiopia and 4 in Sudan) are reported to measure the full range of meteorological parameters and the rest 106 measure daily rainfall totals only.

No	Name of Station	39	Adiremets	78	Hamusit	117	Asketema
1	Debark	40	Aditsetser	79	Kewzeba	118	Dabo Ketema
2	Humera	41	Badme	80	Sekota	119	Kuimesk
3	Metema	42	Biezet	81	Telajen/Hamusit	120	Muja
4	Sanja	43	Bora	82	Zata	121	Kassala
5	Adwa	44	Daro Hafash	83	Adidaro	122	New Halfa
6	Atsebi	45	Debrekerbe	84	Dabat	123	Khashm Elgirba
7	May Tsebr	46	Dera	85	Dib Bahir	124	Elshwak
8	Maygaba	47	Dimma	86	Felwaha	125	Fireweini
9	Nebelet	48	Edaga Selus	87	Gedebebe	126	Shiraro
10	Senkata	49	Edaga Hibrat	88	Gobgob	127	Tekeze Hydro power
11	Shire Endasilasse	50	Endabaquna	89	Kimir Dingay	128	Wad alheleo
12	Amdework	51	Feresmay	90	Negadebahe	129	Aroma
13	Lalibela	52	Finarawa	91	Tikil Dengay	130	Banrt
14	Tsitsika	53	Gelebeda	92	Welela bahir	131	Degen
15	Axum Air Port	54	Gijjet	93	Zerma	132	Gashm algerba
16	Mekele Air Port	55	Guroro	94	Adidaro	133	Goz Ragab
17	Adi Arkay	56	Hagera Selam	95	Adiqudom	134	Hadalia
18	Agere Genet	57	Halelo	96	Adigebra	135	Halfa Elgadida
19	Ambagiorgis	58	Hawzen	97	Adishehu	136	Mateleb
20	Ashere	59	Hewane	98	Agibe	137	Mekali
21	Baeker	60	Ketema Negus	99	Agulai	138	Mokram
22	Belesa (Hamusit)	61	Mayhanes	100	Asegede	139	Sidon
23	Chanchook	62	Merhsenay	101	Aynalem	140	Tendalayi
24	Chenek	63	Muglat	102	Chila	141	Togan
25	Chew Ber	64	Rahya	103	Dansha	142	Tomorgu
26	Ebinat	65	Selehelehe (IV)	104	Debud	143	Barbar
27	Endris	66	Semema	105	Dengolet	144	Doka
28	Guhala	67	Shiraro	106	Edaga Hamus	145	ElGuraish
29	Ibnat	68	Wedisemro	107	Edagaribi	146	Showak
30	Kafta	69	Wukuro	108	Enticho	147	Elazaza North
31	Mykadra	70	Yichila	109	Fatsi	148	Es salama
32	Mekane Birhane	71	Yiha	110	Gerehu Srnay	149	Hillat Hakuma
33	Teodie (Kirakir)	72	Ayna Bugna	111	Hashenge	150	shasheina
34	Abi Adi	73	Belebala Giyorgis	112	Haykmsal	151	Um brakeit
35	Adiawala	74	Chilla	113	Rama	152	Um Grgor
36	Adigoshu	75	Dibiko	114	Samre	153	Um Rahala
37	Adikiile	76	Esrel (Libanos)	115	Tsegereda	154	Aykel
38	Adimehemeday	77	Gibana	116	Workamba		



Wind vane

photo: Nile-SCC



## Hydrometric stations

there are 26 hydrometric stations in the sub-basin; 23 in Ethiopia and the rest 3 in Sudan. The oldest station, Atbara near Kilo 3 was established in 1923. Most stations in Ethiopia were established after the mid 1970's. All stations measure river water level with most stations employing manual staff gauges while 8 stations in the upstream part are equipped with automatic water level recorders. Erosion and sediment transport are key processes in the sub-basin but not adequately monitored.

Strengthening sediment monitoring is one of the key areas for improving the monitoring system in the sub-basin.

The rivers in this sub-basin are highly seasonal and water resources are scarce

No	Name	8	Gheba near Adi Kumsi	16	Genfel at Wukro	24	Tekeze at Humera
1	Gendawoha near Kokit	9	Dolo near Quiha	17	Worie near Maikenetal	25	Molge near Shiraro
2	Atsela near Adishihu	10	Buya near Maitsemri	18	Sulluh near Hawsien	26	Zarema at Zarema
3	Goang near Metema	11	Illala near Mekele	19	Ayehida near Axum		
4	Asera near Debark	12	Mekezo near Dansha	20	Maimidmar near Adwa		
5	Al Asira	13	Gheba near Mekele	21	Sebta near Adidahiro		
6	Tekeze near Yechila	14	Tekeze near Embamadre	22	Maidungur near Adwa		
7	Metera near Ainalem	15	Angareb near Abdi Rafi	23	Hamdait		



compared to the current and anticipated future demands. Therefore, coordinated management of storage dams in Ethiopia and Sudan would help in reducing losses, and maximizing water use efficiency. For this purpose, a real-time data collection and communication system is required to support future coordinated management of water storage dams in Ethiopia and Sudan.





# The White Nile Sub-basin

The White Nile contributes about 25 – 26 10<sup>9</sup>m<sup>3</sup> to the Main Nile measured just upstream of the White – Blue Nile confluence in Khartoum. It receives water from rivers that drain the Equatorial Lakes region of the Nile Basin and which pass through a

series of natural lakes and swamps. As a result, the White Nile provides a relatively more uniform seasonal flow compared to the Blue Nile and Tekeze-Atbara rivers. The White Nile provides long navigable reaches due to its flat slope and stable flow.

## Meteorological monitoring network

There are 36 meteorological stations in the sub-basin, with 30 of them in Sudan, four in Ethiopia and two in South Sudan. The distribution of the stations is shown in the

map below. 8 stations (five in Sudan and three in Ethiopia) are reported to measure the full range of meteorological parameters and the remaining 22 measure daily rainfall totals only.



Automatic weather station



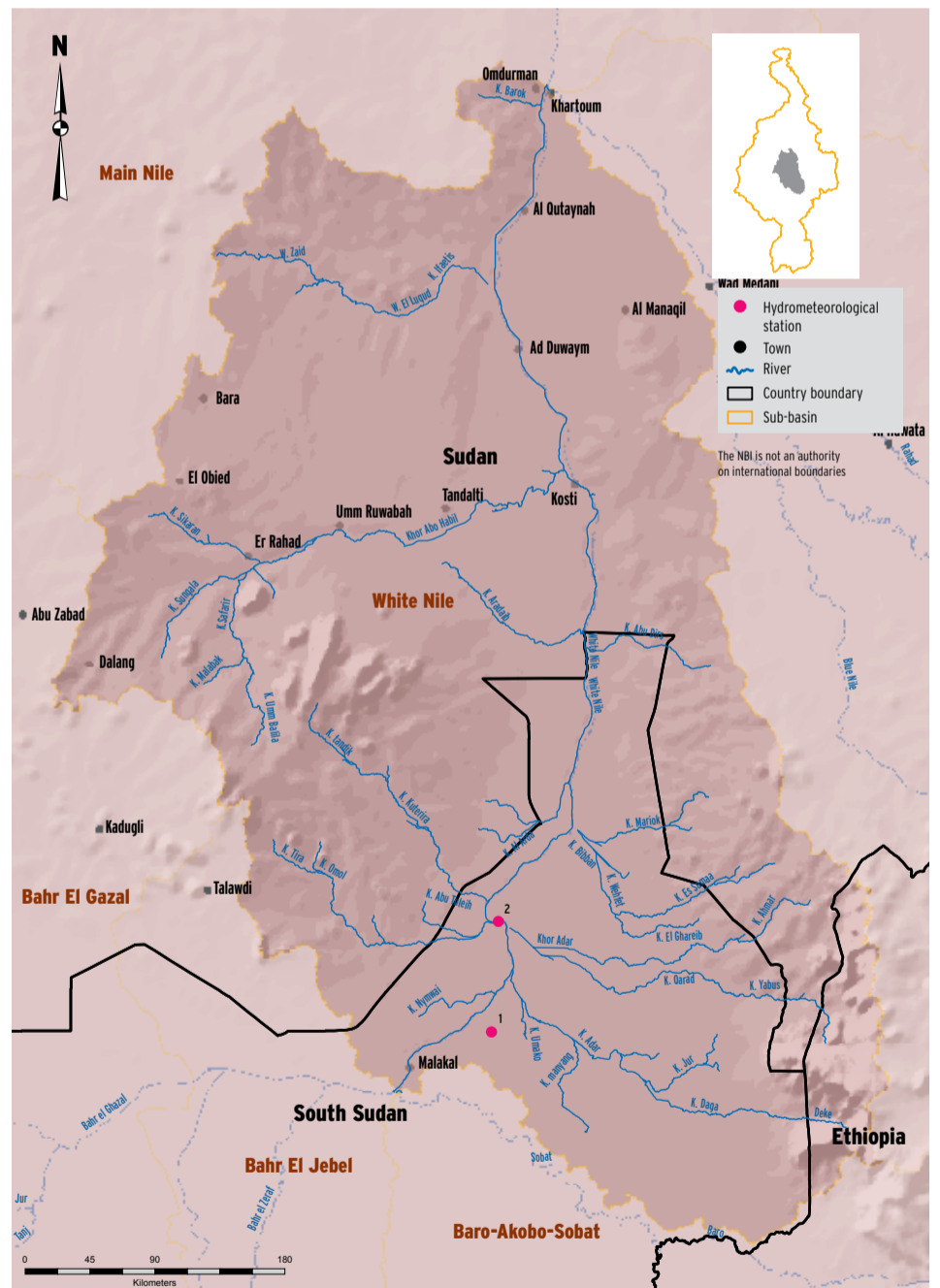
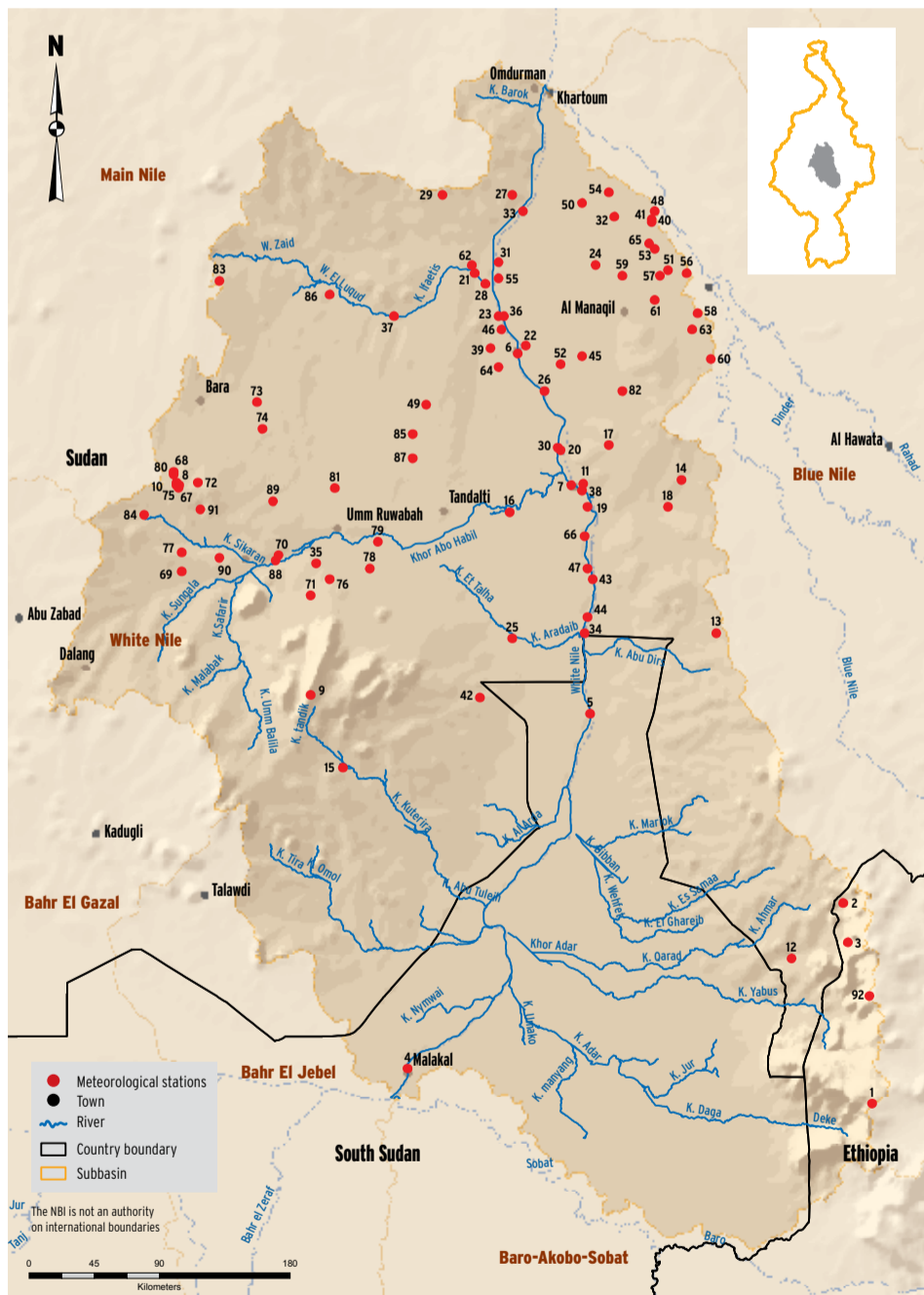
Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP)

## Hydrometric stations

The only station that is operational is White Nile at Malakal. The station is close to Malakal town just downstream of the Sobat – White Nile confluence. Historically, there were four additional stations but they were not operational at the time of the survey conducted in 2014.

water, especially during the dry season (November – May/June), when the Blue Nile and other tributaries from the Ethiopian highlands are at their lowest levels. Therefore, rehabilitating the non-functioning stations in the sub-basin is urgently required. The Nile Basin regional Hydromet system has included the station at Malakal (Renk) and the station d/s of Jebel Awlia dam as regional stations.

The White Nile is an important source of



No	Name Of Station	19	Um Hani	38	Hellat Abbas	57	Wad El Burr	76	Rifee Um Rawaba
1	Begi	20	Aba	39	Idd El' Ud	58	Wad El Umarbi	77	Shekan
2	Kurmuk	21	Abqer	40	Istarahna	59	Wad Ezzein	78	Shirkela
3	Famesetre	22	Abu Harira	41	Istarahna	60	Wad Figad	79	Shirkela Um Aush
4	Malakal	23	Dubasi	42	J Megeneis	61	Wad Hilal	80	Tareg Almashea
5	Renk	24	El Neima	43	Jebelein	62	Wad Nimir	81	Ubo Grain
6	Ed Dueim	25	Elakaf	44	Kerikera	63	Wad Nu'man	82	Um Dam Haj Ahmed
7	Kosti	26	El-Kawa	45	Rahama	64	Wakara	83	Um Garfa
8	El Obeid	27	Elsheikh Essaddiq	46	Shabasha	65	Zubeir	84	Um Ramad
9	Rashad	28	Es Sufi	47	Showal	66	Zuleit (1)	85	Um Saigaoon
10	Elobeid	29	Esh Shageiq	48	Toba	67	Alqalah	86	Ummsiyala
11	Rabak	30	Fashashoya	49	Tuweimat	68	Almashtal	87	Wd Ashana
12	Aldali	31	Fatasa	50	Ub Guta	69	Elban Gadid	88	Abu Habel
13	J.mazmoum	32	Fawar	51	Umm Dueina	70	Elsameih	89	Alaen
14	J.sagdi	33	Geteina	52	Umm Suneint	71	Gabrat Elshaikh	90	Alrahad
15	Abu Gubeiha	34	Goda	53	Umm udam	72	Khur Taget	91	Um Kadada
16	Um Kouka	35	Goz Khadra	54	Ureik	73	Muzdalifa	92	Assosa
17	Jabal Biut	36	Hashaba	55	Wad Alzaki	74	Namlah		
18	Jabal Moui	37	Helba	56	Wad Bashkar	75	Obeid Albusta		

No	Name
1	Khor Adar
2	Melut

# The Baro-Akobo-Sobat Nile Sub-basin

The Baro-Akobo-Sobat sub-basin is shared by Ethiopia and South Sudan. Its major rivers are the Baro, Akobo and Pibor. The Baro, after joined by Akobo and Pibor makes the Sobat that flows to

the northwest to join the Bahr el Jebel and eventually form the White Nile. The annual water yield of the Sobat is approximately 12- 13 10<sup>9</sup>m<sup>3</sup>. The reach of the Baro and Sobat downstream of Gambella town (in

Ethiopia) is navigable. A key feature of the hydrology of the sub-basin is that its rivers (especially in the lower reaches) flow over flat surface with meandering patterns creating complex interactions with sur-

rounding floodplains. The spill from the Baro river into the Machar marshes (in the White Nile Sub-basin) is one of naturally occurring transfer of water into a neighboring catchment.

## Meteorological monitoring network

There are 78 meteorological stations in the sub-basin – all in Ethiopia. The distribution of the stations is shown in the map below. 17 stations are reported to measure

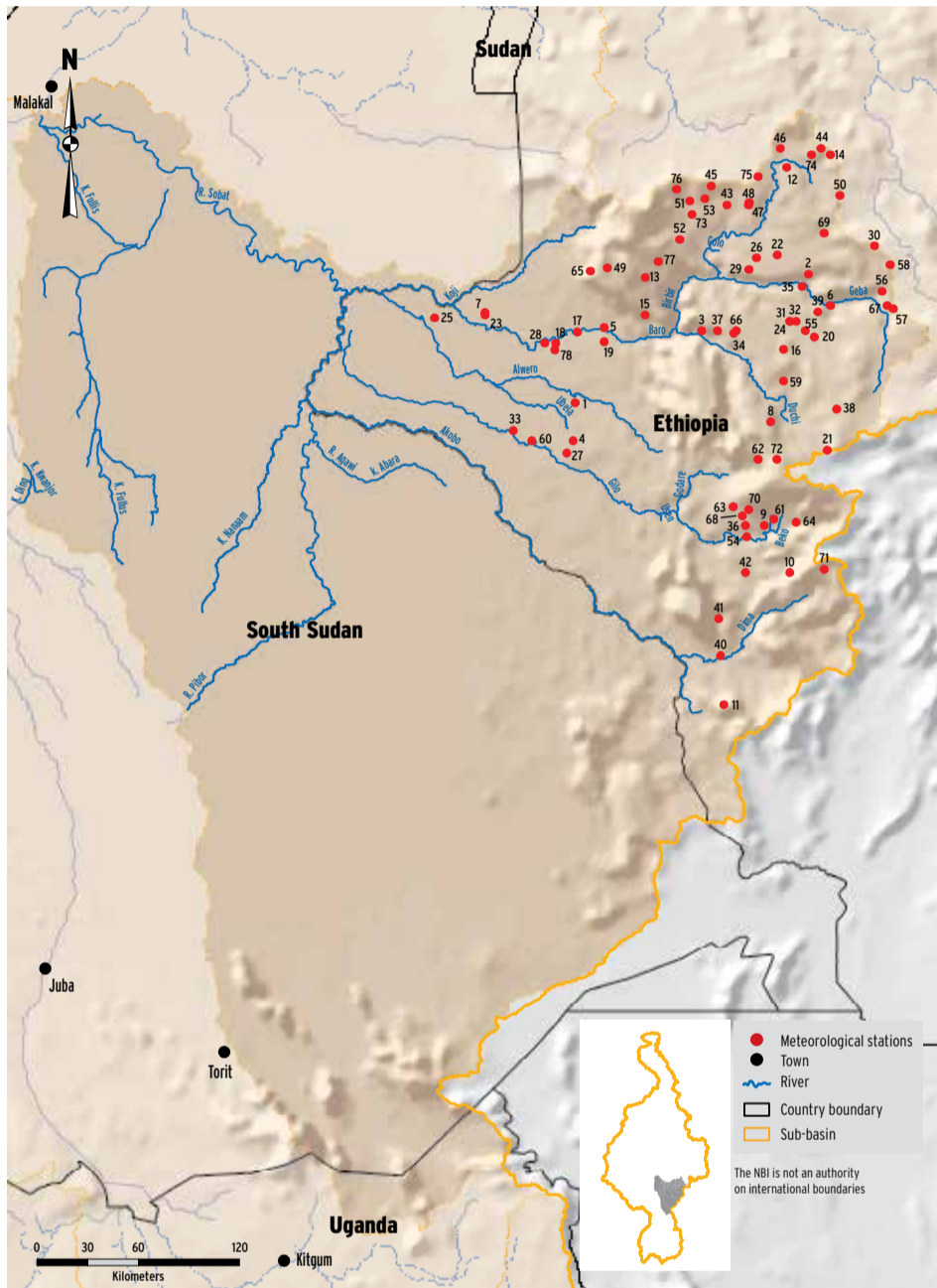
the full range of meteorological parameters. Most stations are in the highlands with very few of the stations located in the lower plains of the sub-basin in Ethiopia.

## Hydrometric stations

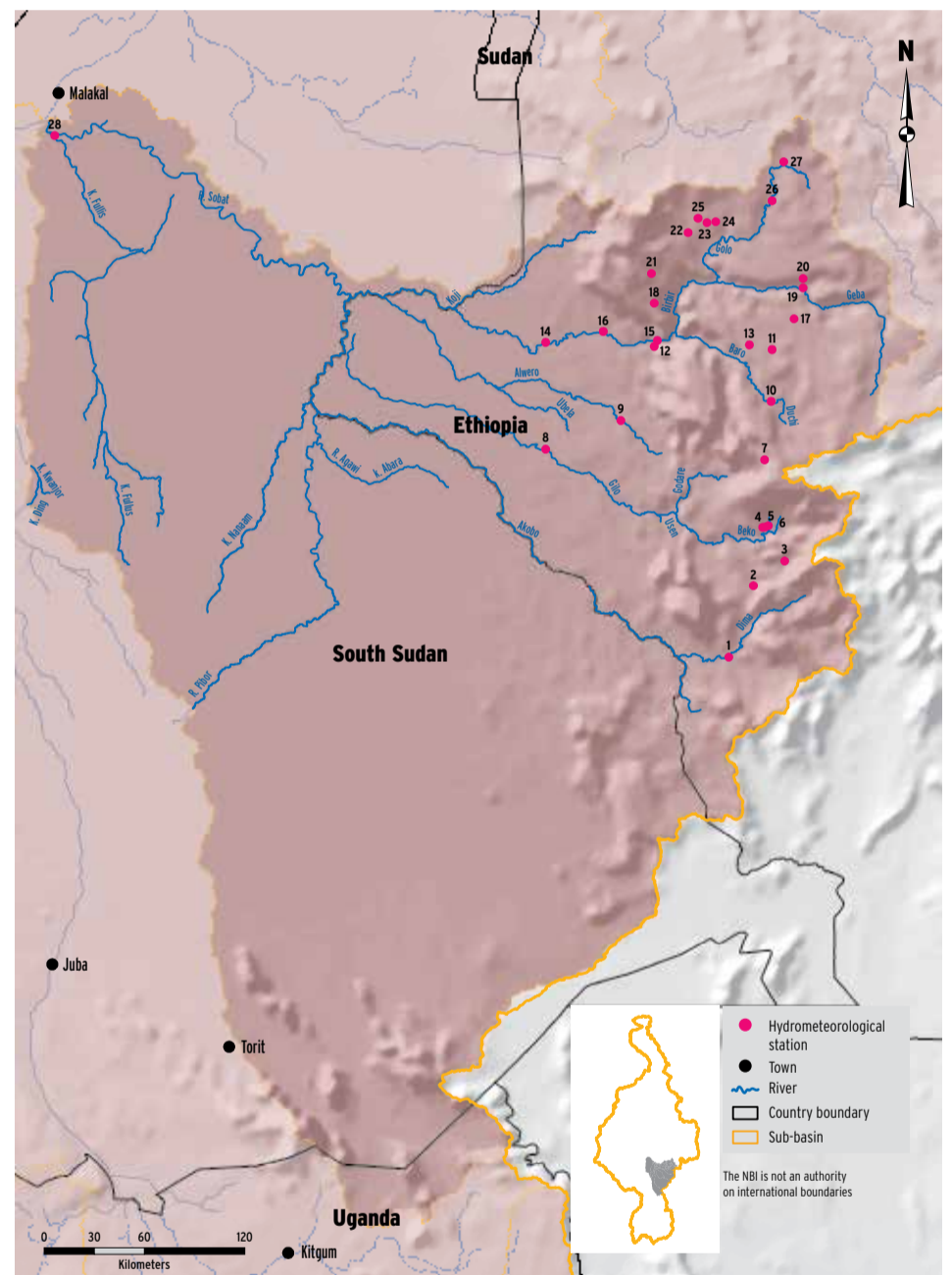
there are 28 stations in the sub-basin (27 in Ethiopia and 1 in South Sudan). More than half of the stations in Ethiopia were established in 1980's and, therefore, have short records. Breaks in records often pose additional challenges in using such short records.

especially in its lower reaches exhibit highly complex hydrology in which the rivers at time bifurcate and join back the main stem and floodplains and swamps interact with the river flows. The Hydrometric network in this sub-basin requires strengthening with additional data collection through remote sensing to adequately understand the hydrology of the sub-basin.

The hydrometric network of this sub-basin is far from adequate. The sub-basin,



No	Name of Station	20	Becho	40	Guraferda (Biftu)	60	Dippa
1	Abobo	21	Bitta Genet	41	Koy	61	Fide
2	Alge	22	Darimu (Dopa)	42	Mizan Teferi	62	Gecha
3	Bure	23	Eliadora	43	Alemteferi	63	Gubete
4	Fugnido	24	Fugo Leka	44	Dengoro	64	Kura
5	Gambela	25	Gnignang	45	Gidame	65	Menko Lencho
6	Hurumu	26	Gobe	46	Guliso	66	Sibo
7	Jikawo (Lare)	27	Gog	47	Lalo Kelle	67	Wetete (TP)
8	Masha	28	Itang	48	Mechara	68	Yeki
9	Tepi	29	Kidame Gebaya	49	Muji	69	Yembo
10	Aman	30	Meko	50	Nolekaba	70	Ermichi
11	Jeba	31	Metu Hospital	51	Oaqi	71	Shewa Gimira
12	Ayira	32	Nopa	52	Seko Humbi	72	Yina
13	Dembidolo	33	Puchala	53	Yubdo	73	Chanka
14	Gimbi	34	Soretelafesese	54	Bechi	74	Enango
15	Shebel	35	Supe	55	Bilambilo	75	Figakobra
16	Gore	36	Tinishu Miti	56	Bontu	76	Kebe
17	Abol	37	Uka	57	Chora	77	Rob Gebeya (Kel)
18	Aliyadora	38	Yadofa	58	Dega	78	Lare
19	Baro Bonga	39	Yayo (Dorani)	59	Didu Gordomo		



No	Name	8	Gilo Nr. Pignudo	15	Baro @ Bonga	23	Cherecha Nr. Chanka
1	U. Akobo Nr. Dima	9	Awero at Dam/Dumbong Village	16	Baro @ Gambella	24	Merdefa Nr. Alem Teferi
2	Berhan Nr. Bebeke Farm	10	Upper Baro Nr. Masha	17	Sore Nr. Metu	25	Kuni Nr. Chanka
3	Gacheb Nr. Mizan Tefri	11	Gumero Nr. Gore	18	Agami Nr. Ashi	26	Birbir Nr. Yubdo
4	Begwuha Nr. Tepi	12	Bonga Nr. Bonga	19	Geba Nr. Suppi	27	Ouwa Nr. Guliso
5	Bitinwuha Nr. Tepi	13	Uka @ Uka	20	Elika Nr. Supe	28	Hillet Dolieb
6	Beko(Shoha Nr. Tepi	14	Baro @ Itang	21	Meti Nr. Dembidolo		
7	Gengi Nr. Gecha			22	Keto Nr. Chanka		

# The Bahr el Jebel Sub-basin

The Bahr el Jebel sub-basin has one of most complex hydrology in the Nile Basin. The Sudd system of wetlands, the second largest freshwater wetland in the World, is a key feature of the sub-basin. The main river, Bahr el Jebel, has river flow records since the beginning of the 20th century. However, due to conflicts in South Sudan, river gauging was interrupted for more than 20 years.



Wind vane



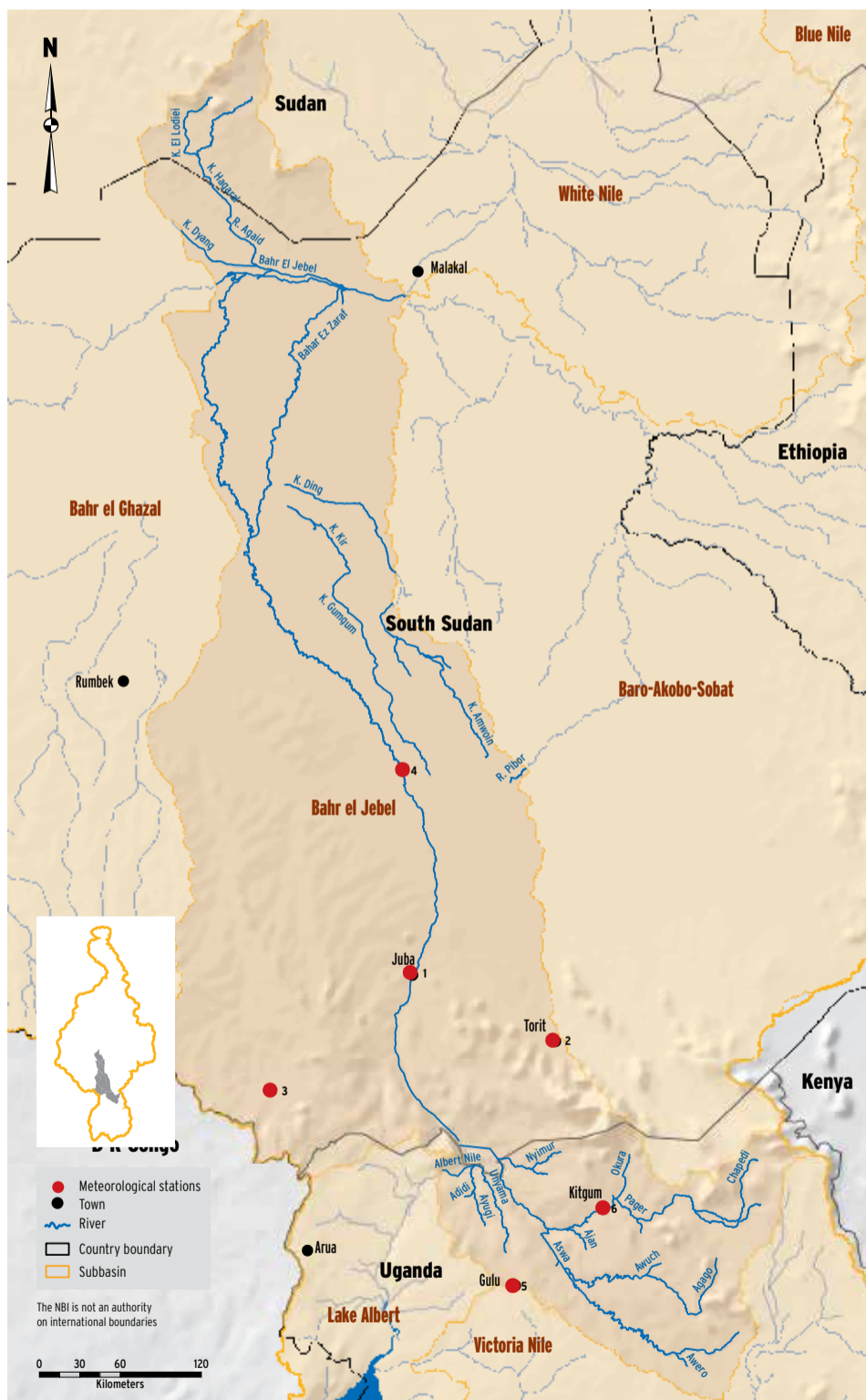
Water level reader

photo: Vivian Nabyonga

## Meteorological monitoring network

There are six meteorological stations in the sub-basin; five in Uganda and one in

South Sudan. Only three full met stations are available in the entire sub-basin.



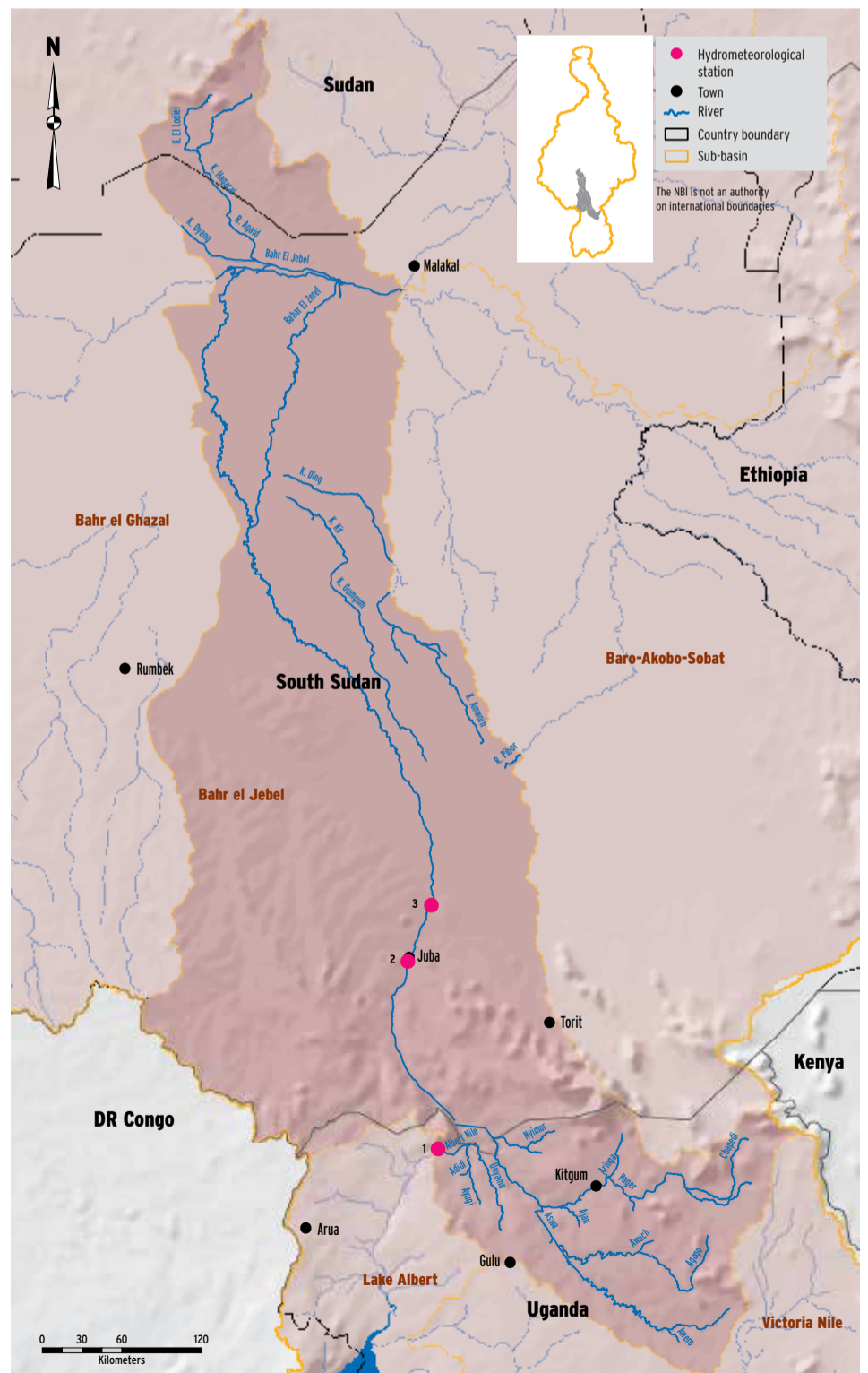
No	Name of Station	3	Yei	6	Kitqum Centre Vt
1	Juba	4	Bor		
2	Torit	5	Gulu met station		

## Hydrometric stations

There are 4 stations in the sub-basin (3 in South Sudan and 1 in Uganda). The stations in South Sudan are Bahr el Jebel at Mongala and Bor while the single station in Uganda is at Laropi. Three stations are not sufficient for this sub-basin.

The hydrology of the Bahr el Jebel sub-basin has been the subject of many investigation

in the past. However, there is a gap in the understanding of the interaction between the river system and the system of wetlands in the sub-basin. Severe flooding has caused huge damages in recent years but the monitoring infrastructure is nowhere near adequate. The sub-basin requires a system of monitoring that employs ground-based as well as remote sensing supported data collection and transmission.



No	Name of Station	2	Juba
1	R. Albert Nile at Laropi	3	Mongalla

# The Bahr el Ghazal Sub-basin

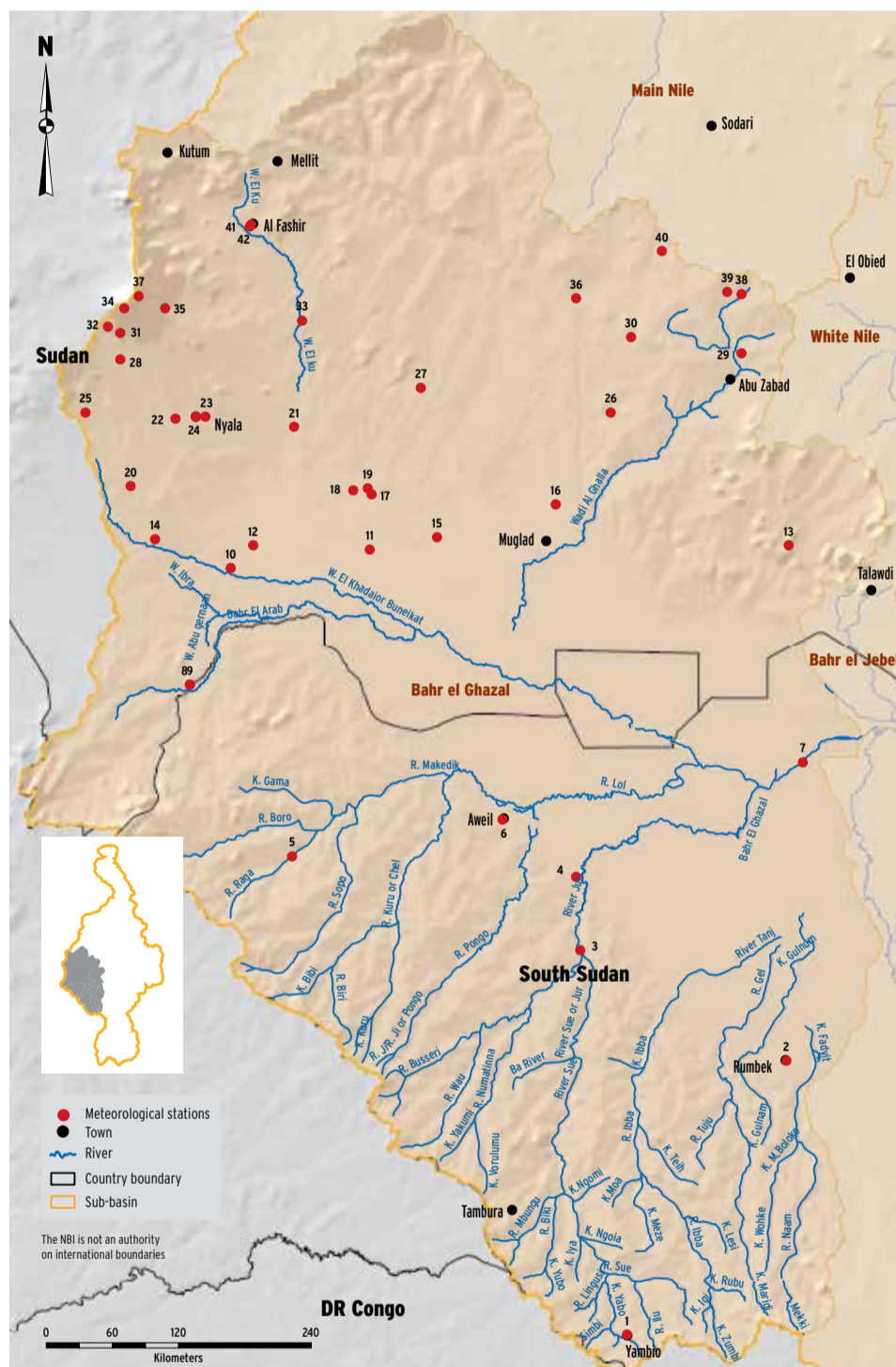
The Bahr el Ghazal Sub-basin drains is shared by South Sudan and Sudan. It has an area comparable to the Blue Nile but with very small outflow. The main river, Bahr el Ghazal, flows and joins the Bahr el Jebel downstream of Lake No.



Dry river bed in South Sudan

## Meteorological monitoring network

There are 14 meteorological stations in the sub-basin; two in South Sudan and 12 in Sudan. Nine stations are full met stations.

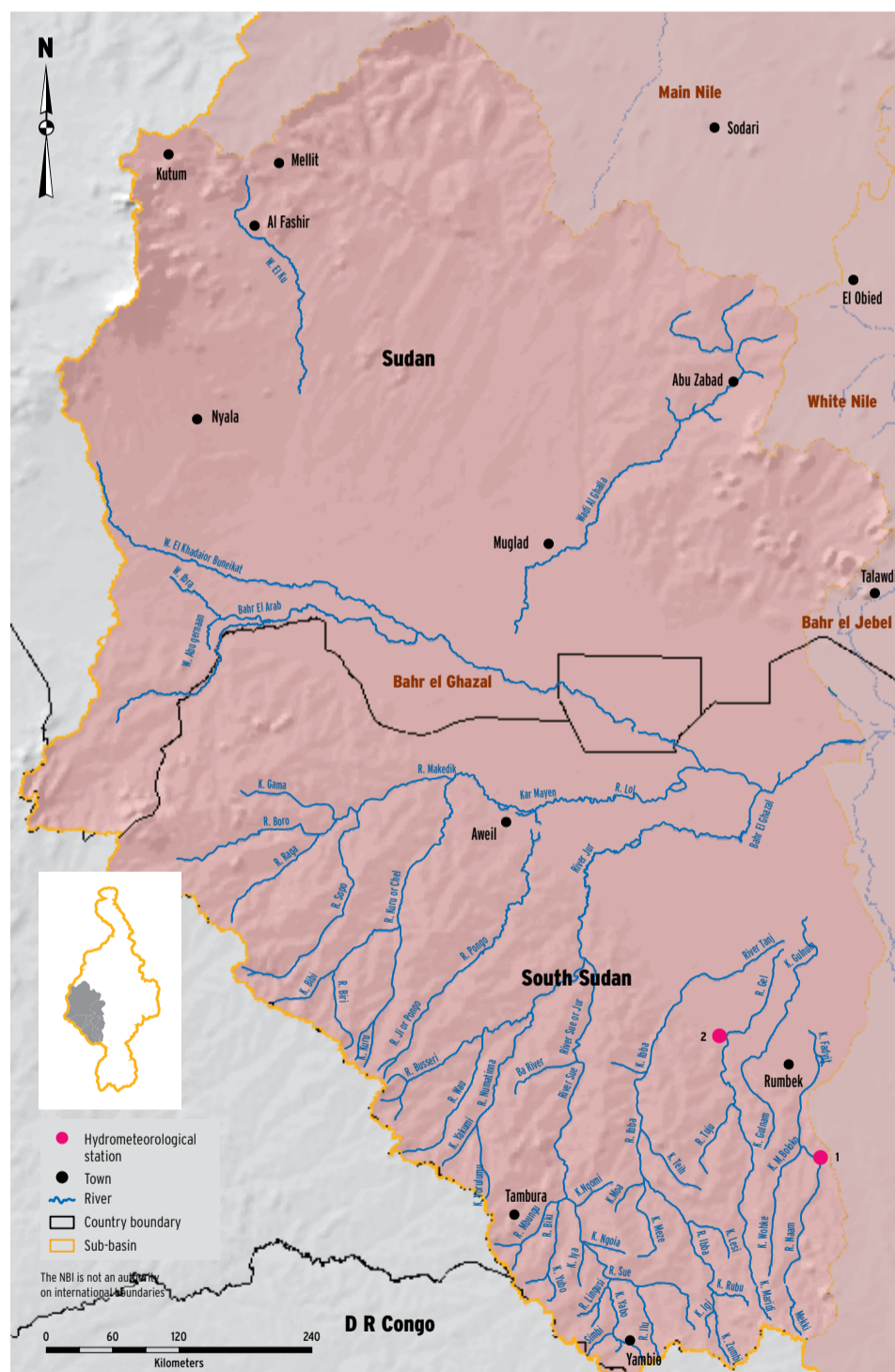


No	Name of Station	11	ABU MATARIG	22	ET TOMAI	33	WAF'A
1	YAMBIO	12	UMM SIKEINAT	23	Nyala	34	TORA TONGA
2	RUMBEEK	13	Kadugli	24	Nyala	35	MALEMM
3	Wau	14	tulus	25	DANKOG	36	Wd Bunda
4	KUAJOK	15	ABUGABRA	26	Elodjiah	37	SUNI
5	Raga	16	Babanusa	27	EL-TEWAISHA	38	Elmazroob
6	AWEIL	17	ABU HEMeid	28	KAS	39	Alkhowi
7	BENTIU	18	EL-DEAIN	29	Giraih Elsarha	40	Eial Bakhit
8	Alraddom	19	Gazala gawazat	30	En Nahud	41	El Fasher
9	RADOM	20	EID EL-GANAM	31	KALOKITING	42	El Fasher
10	BURAM	21	MUHAGRIA	32	KUNGAR		

## Hydrometric stations

There is only one station in the sub-basin – on a tributary of the river at Wau in South Sudan. The map below shows the location of the station. The table adjacent to the map provides the list of hydrometric stations that were available but not operational and those newly proposed as part of strengthening the monitoring system in South Sudan.

The Bahr el Ghazal is the least monitored sub-basin in the Nile Basin. As a result, the hydrology of the sub-basin is not well understood although indications are that the sub-basin has considerable water resources potential. A combination of ground – and remote sensing based observations of hydro-meteorological parameters are needed for the long-term sustainable management of the water resources of the sub-basin.



Note: All Hydrometric stations in Bahr el Ghazal are not operational  
 1 Rumbek

2 Gel

# The Lake Albert Sub-basin

The Lake Albert Sub-basin is shared by DR Congo and Uganda. The sub-basin has three main lakes, Edward, Albert and George. Victoria Nile is regulated in part by the outflow from the lake. The sub-basin is an area of oil exploration and, hence, water quality and quantity monitoring is very important for sustainable management of the water resources.



ADCP being lowered into the the stream



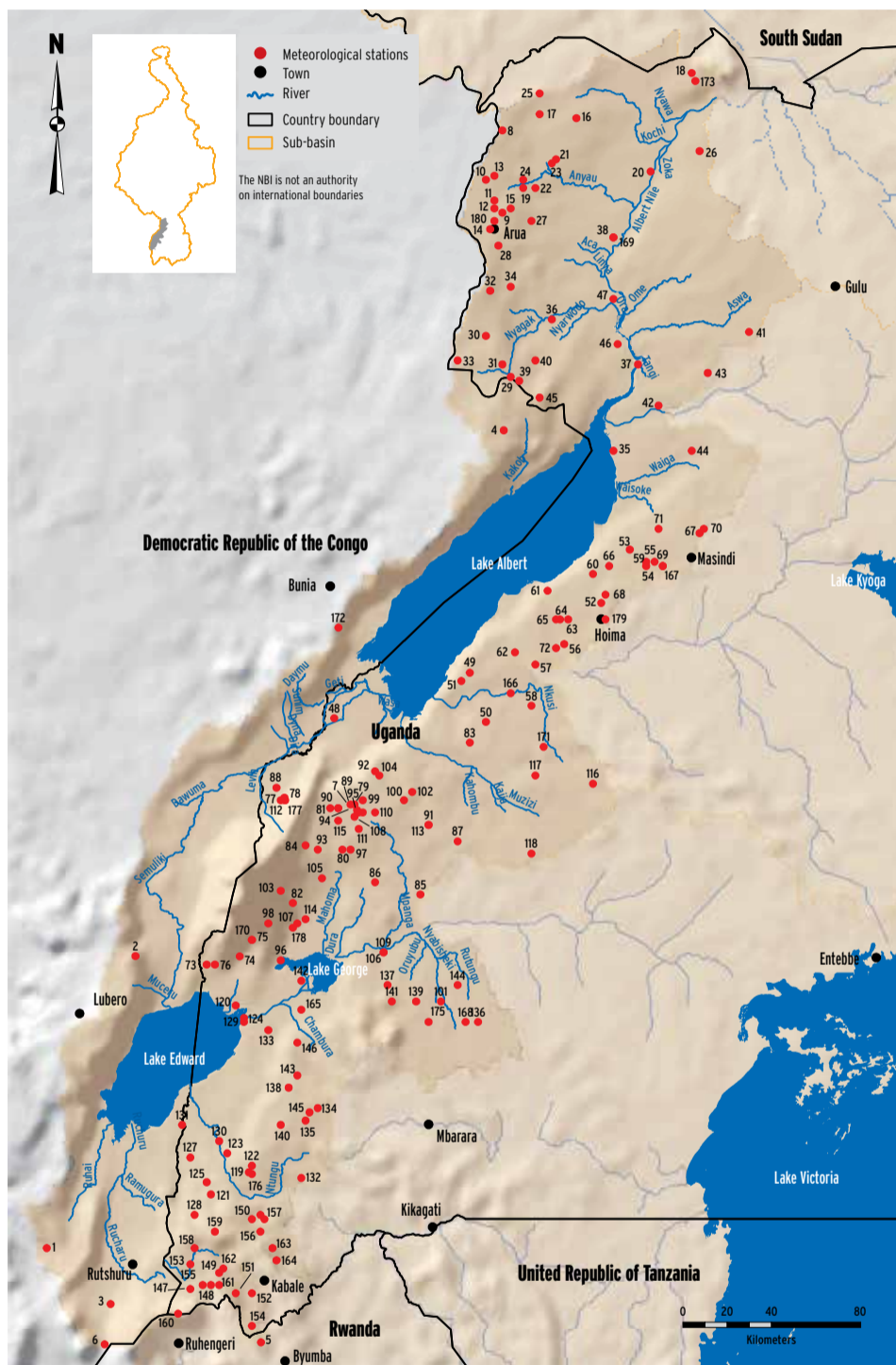
Taking ADCP readings

photo: Vivian Nabyonga

## Meteorological monitoring network

There are 29 meteorological stations in the sub-basin; all in Uganda. 11 stations

are full met stations. The distribution of the stations is shown in the map below.



No	Name	35	Buliisa Gomborora Hqs	73	Mpondwe Customs Post	Station		
1	Bukombo	36	Okollo Dispensary	74	Nyabirongo	111	Kanyawara	
2	Isale Vuhovi	37	Pakwach Dispensary	75	Nyamugasani	112	Bundibugyo Cocoa Devt	
3	Rumangabo	38	Rhino Camp Dispensary	76	Bwera	113	Kyenjojo 1st Order	
4	Ugongo	39	Goli African Inland	77	Bundibujo	Station	114	Mubuku Giant prison
5	BUNGWE-PNLP	40	Nebbi UTC	78	Butiti	115	Kinyamasika TTC	
6	SHINGIRO	41	Anaka	79	Kahangi Estate	116	Kakumiro Variety TC	
7	Fort Portal	42	Kabalega Falls	80	Kilchooney Estate	117	Buyanja (Buyaga)	
8	Koboko St. Charles L	43	Wangkar Camp	81	Nyakasura School	118	Kyegegwa	
9	Abi Estate	44	Wairingo River Camp	82	Bugoye	119	Nyakibale	
10	Olovu	45	Erusi Forest Station	83	Kagadi Gombololo	120	Katwe	
11	Lokiragodo	46	Pokwero Group Farm	84	Kisomoro	121	Kanungu	
12	Manibe Omuazire	47	Wadelai WDD	85	Nkoma	122	Rukungiri Dispensary	
13	Ovujo	48	Rwebisenjo	86	Biqodi	123	Bugangari Dispensary	
14	Arua Central Govt	49	Kyangwali	87	Matiri	124	Myeya	
15	Wandi BAT Uganda Ltd	50	Mugalike WFM	88	Nyaruru	125	Burema	
16	Yumbe Hospital	51	Kasonga HM	89	Kyembogo Farm	126	Rulind Swamp Inlet	
	(Aringa)	52	Dwoli Estate	90	Virika School	127	Kijura Tea Factory	
17	Ladonga VFM	53	Busingiro Forest	91	Kyenjojo	128	Kitahura Forest	
18	Moyo Boma	54	Nyamageta Estate	92	Kijura Tea Factory	Station	129	Uganda Institute of
19	Terego Dispensary	55	Kinyala Estate	93	Yeriya Estate	130	Ecology - Kasese	
20	Obongi Dispensary	56	Kizirafumbi	94	Mugusu Estate	131	Kaniabizo	
21	Upupe Dispensary -	57	Kabwoya	95	Chakalima Estate	132	Ishasha River Camp	
	Arua	58	Kiryanga Gombolola	96	Muhokya Toro Limeco	133	Rwashamaire	
22	Otrevu	59	Nyabeyya	97	Isunga Estate	134	Bunyaruquru WFM	
23	Utumbari - Arua	60	Kigorobya	98	Kilembe Mines	135	Bushenyi	
24	Ivu	61	Biseruka	99	Sebutole	136	Kitabi Seminary	
25	Mount Kei Forest	62	Bugoma CFR	100	Kyehara II	137	Nyabusizi Saza Hqs	
	Station	63	Bugambe Tea Estate	101	Bulemba	138	Kicheche	
26	Adjumani Prisons Farm	64	Rwabikondo Estate	102	Kikumiro V	139	Kalinzu Forest	
27	Bileale Tobacco Station	65	Nyamoloby Estate	103	Mobuku HEP	140	Kanoni Gombolola Hqs	
28	Kuluva	66	Siba	104	Itwara C.F.R.	141	Mitoma	
29	Payidha	67	Kihonda Estate	105	Ruimi Prison Farm	142	Ibanda	
30	Warr Dispensary	68	Wampanga Forest	106	Kiburara	143	Tufmac Kasenyi	
31	Nyapea St. Aloisius	69	Kinyala Sugar Scheme	107	Mubuku/Sebwe Irr	144	Ankole Tea Company	
	Station	70	Kisindi Group Farm	108	Kahangi Estate	145	Kazo Sub County	
32	Usi Forest Station -	71	Kigumba Farm	109	Bihanga prison Farm			
	Nebbi	72	Muntme Fatima Parish	110	Rwebitaba Tea Res			
33	Lendu Forest Station							
34	Nyara TWGCS							

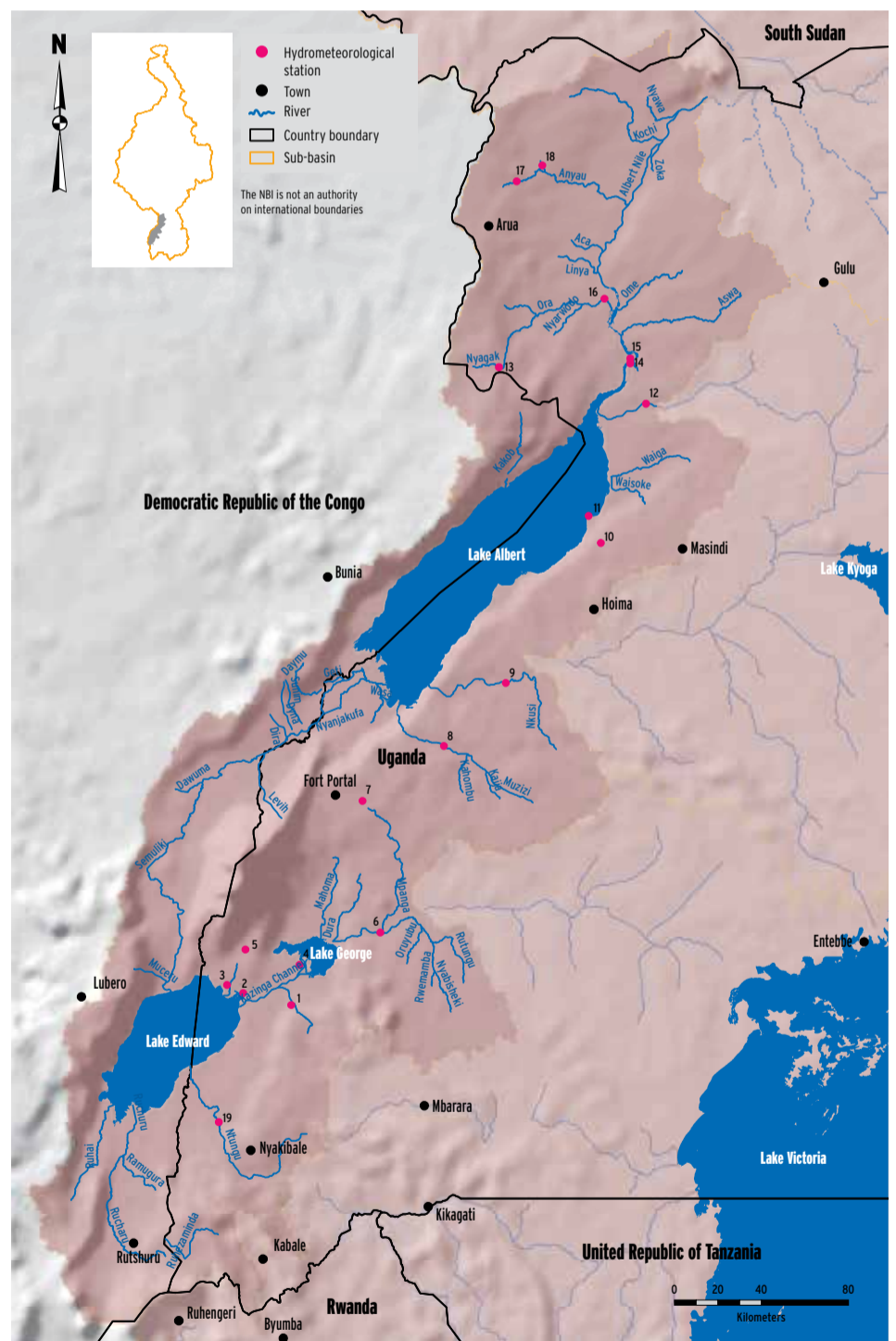
## Hydrometric stations

There are 18 hydrometric stations in the sub-basin. The map below shows the location of the stations. The table adjacent to the map provides the list of hydrometric stations that were active at the time of the survey in 2014.

Edward outflows would enhance understanding of the interaction between Victoria Nile and the Lake outflow.

Water quality monitoring in upper parts of the sub-basin requires emphasis in order to monitor and potentially avert pollution risks from oil exploration efforts there.

Improved monitoring of Lake Albert and



No	Name	7	R. Mpanga at Fort Portal - Ibanda Road	14	R. Nyagak at Nyapea
1	R. Mitano at Kanungu - Rwensama	8	R. Mpanga at Kampala - Fort Portal Road	15	Albert Nile at Pakwach
2	R. Chambura at Kichwamba	9	Muzizi	16	R. Albert Nile at Panyango
3	L. Edward at Katwe	10	R. Nkusi at Kyenjojo - Hoima R	17	R. Ora at Inde - Pakwach Road
4	R. Nyamugasani at Katwe - Zaire	11	R. Waki II at Biiso - Hoima Road	18	R. Anyau at Arua - Moyo Road
5	L. George at Kasenyi	12	L. Albert at Butiaba	19	R. Oru at Arua - Yumbe Road
6	Nyamugasani	13	R. Kyoga Nile at Paraa		

# The Victoria Nile Sub-basin

The largest part of the Victoria Nile sub-basin lies in Uganda with a small part in Kenya and is drained by the Victoria Nile once it leaves the Lake Victoria. The sub-basin has substantial hydropower potential. The average annual flow of Victoria Nile at Jinja station in Uganda is approximately  $32 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^3$ . This is a sub-basin with relatively good monitoring infrastructure in the Nile Basin.



Station at River Kafu



Lake Kyoga at Bugondo during wet season

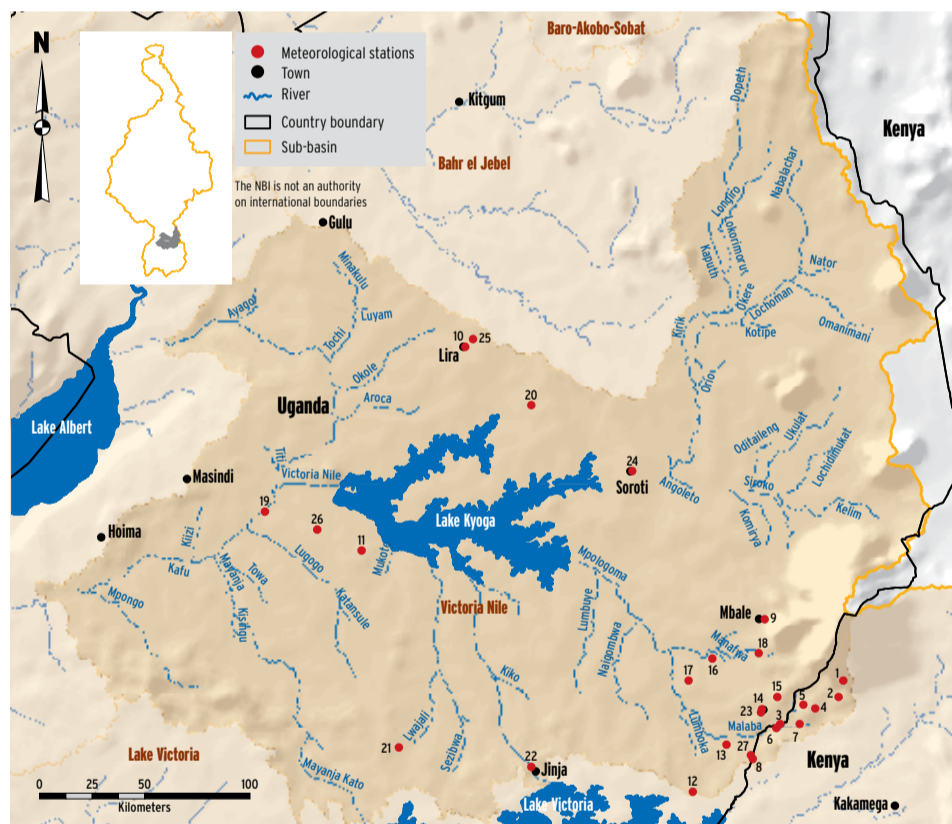
## Meteorological monitoring network

There are 48 meteorological stations in the sub-basin; distributed in Kenya (6)

and Uganda (42). 11 stations are full met stations. The distribution of the stations is shown in the map below.



Lake Kyoga at Bugondo during dry season

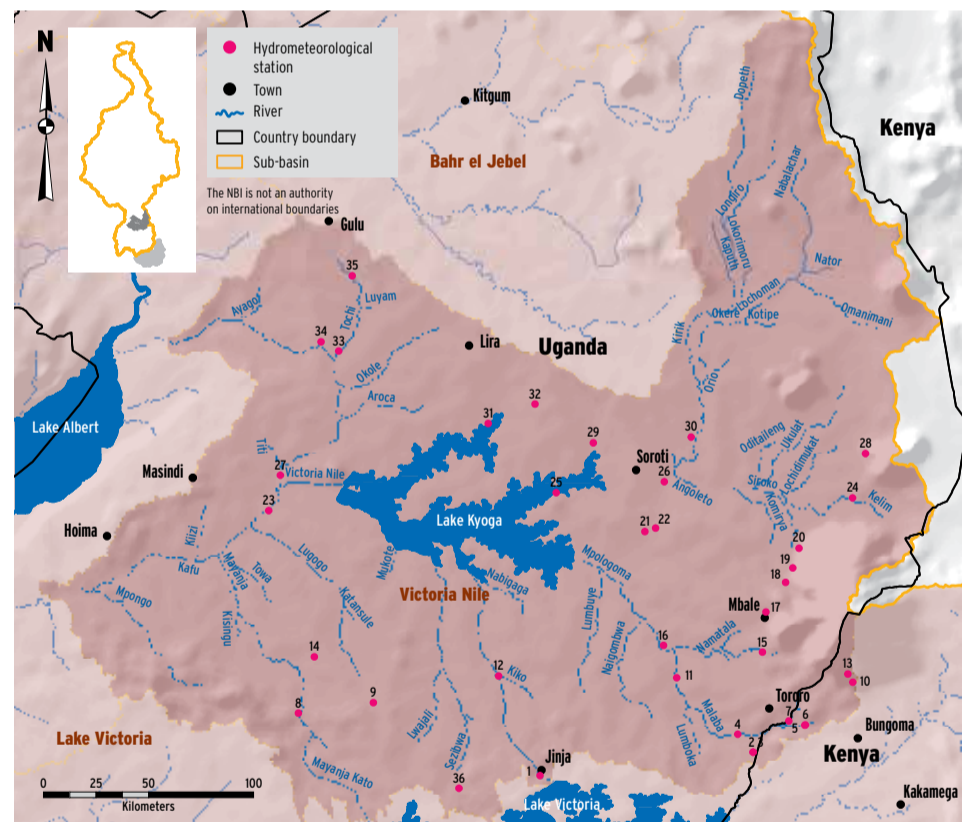


No	Name	10	Lira	20	Enget (Lira)
1	Kimama Primary	11	Nakasongola	21	Namulonge Res Station
2	Sirisia Chief's Camp	12	Namayingo Health Centre	22	Jinja Met. Station
3	Lukolis Dispensary, Kakamega	13	Busitema University	23	Tororo Met. station
4	Kolonya Boy's Sec. School	14	Tororo Met	24	Soroti Met Station
5	Angorai Chief's Centre	15	Kwapa Sub County H/O	25	Lira Ngetta Agromet Station.
6	Machakusi Nursery	16	Butaleja District H/O	26	Nabiswera
7	Amagoro D.o's Office	17	Budumba Health Centre	27	Alupe Kari
8	Alupe Cotton Research Station	18	Manafwa Water Works		
9	Mbale	19	Kafu (Masindi)		

## Hydrometric stations

there are 53 hydrometric stations in the sub-basin; 6 in Kenya and 47 in Uganda. The map below shows the location of the station. The table adjacent to the map provides the list of hydrometric stations that were active at the time of the survey in 2014.

Enhancing reservoir operation of a cascade of hydropower dams (existing and planned ones) is one of the priority areas in the sub-basin. This requires enhanced real-time data collection and transmission system linked with appropriately built reservoir management system.



1	L. Victoria at Jinja Pier	14	Wamboli at Nabiswera - Gulu Rd	27	R. Kyoga Nile at Masindi Port
2	Alupe	15	R. Manafwa at Mbale - Tororo Rd	28	R. Namalu at Mbale - Moroto Rd
3	Alupe	16	R. Mpologoma at Tirinyi-Mbale road	29	R. Omunyal Upper at Tiririri -
4	R. Malaba at Jinja - Tororo Road	17	R. Namatala at Mbale - Soroti R	30	R. Akokorio at Soroti - Katakwi
5	Malakisi	18	R. Sironko at Mbale - Moroto Road	31	L. Kwania at Kachung
6	Malakisi	19	R. Simu at Mbale - Moroto Road	32	R. Enget at Bata - Dokolo Road
7	Malaba	20	R. Sipi at Mbale - Moroto Road	33	R. Tochi II at Gulu - Atura Roa
8	R. Mayanja at Kapeeka - Kakunga	21	R. Abuket at Kumi - Serere Road	34	R. Kyoga Nile at Kamdini
9	R. Kigwe at Semuto - Wobulenzi	22	R. Agu at Kumi - Serere Road	35	Tochil
10	Yala	23	R. Kafu at Kampala - Gulu Road	36	R. Sezibwa at Falls
11	R. Mpologoma at Budumba	24	R. Kelim (Greek) at Mbale - Moroto Road		
12	R. Victoria Nile at Mbulamuti	25	L. Kyoga at Bugondo Pier		
13	Malakisi	26	R. Kapiri at Kumi - Soroti Road		





# NILE BASIN REGIONAL HYDROMET

## Challenges and Opportunities

River basin monitoring is essential for knowledge-based water resources planning, efficient water resources management, socio-economic development, and environmental sustainability. The current system of Nile Basin monitoring is inadequate where many significant hydrologic portions of the Nile Basin are either un-gauged or very sparsely gauged even with respect to basic hydrological parameters. To address these critical gaps and improve transboundary water resource collaboration, the NBI worked with the NBI riparian countries to develop design specifications and an implementation plan for the Nile Basin Regional Hydro-meteorological Monitoring System.

Based on the individual country inclusive assessments, it was clear that each of the riparian countries had the requisite institutions established for monitoring, but that the level of professional depth and breadth of training and staffing varied, as did the hardware and software available for collecting and managing the data and actual parameters being measured. The most important gaps identified and addressed in the development of the Nile Basin Regional Monitoring Network are: significant number of stations that are outdated and out of service, inadequate equipment calibration, limited or non-existent telemetry systems, lack of adequate or modern data acquisition and management systems, and weak national water quality, groundwater and sediment monitoring programs.

## Recent developments

Recognizing the importance of a functional Nile River Basin Monitoring System, NBI developed the design of a regional hydromet system that addresses the severe gaps, responds to the strategic water resource management issues that had direct bearing on the socio-economic developments within the basin, builds on existing networks – including those of IGAD-HYCOS Program – is based on international guidelines and best practices, and considers national needs and limitations.

## Meteorological Network Design

The meteorological network design was driven by the spatial distribution necessary to capture the meteorological variability within the basin. A total of 322 meteorological stations are proposed for the regional network of the Nile Basin. This includes 227 stations to measure a full suite of meteorological parameters and 95 to monitor rainfall only. The full meteorological (Full Met) stations include instruments to measure precipitation, wind, air temperature, humidity, barometric pressure and solar radiation which allows for the calculation of evaporation.

Proposed meteorological network for the Nile Basin



Meteorological stations per sub-basin		
Sub-basin	Area (KM <sup>2</sup> )	Regional design
Lake Victoria - Kagera	197,181	30
Lake Victoria - Kenya/Mara	49,737	31
Lake Victoria - Tanzania/Mara	71,305	22
Lake Victoria - Uganda	27,660	13
Victoria Nile	85,521	28
Lake Albert	74,819	28
Bahr el Jebel	185,364	14
Bahr el Ghazal	604,746	23
Baro-Akobo-Sobat	204,288	17
White Nile	258,803	17
Blue Nile - Upper	175,374	41
Blue Nile - Lower	132,344	13
Tekeze-Atbara	232,374	35
Main Nile	592,637	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>322</b>

Summary of proposed meteorological network by country						
Country	Active	Inactive*	New	Total	# of Stations w/	
					Full Met	Rain Only
Burundi	9	1	1	11	10	1
DR Congo	3	2	4	9	7	2
Ethiopia	82	1	0	83	74	9
Kenya	28	5	0	33	21	12
Rwanda	10	1	0	11	11	0
South Sudan	5	22	5	32	18	14
Sudan	33	18	0	51	29	22
Tanzania	21	6	0	27	22	5
Uganda	48	17	0	65	35	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>95</b>
% of Total	74%	23%	3%	100%	70%	30%

\*Inactive Stations also include unknown or "blank" status entries originally received

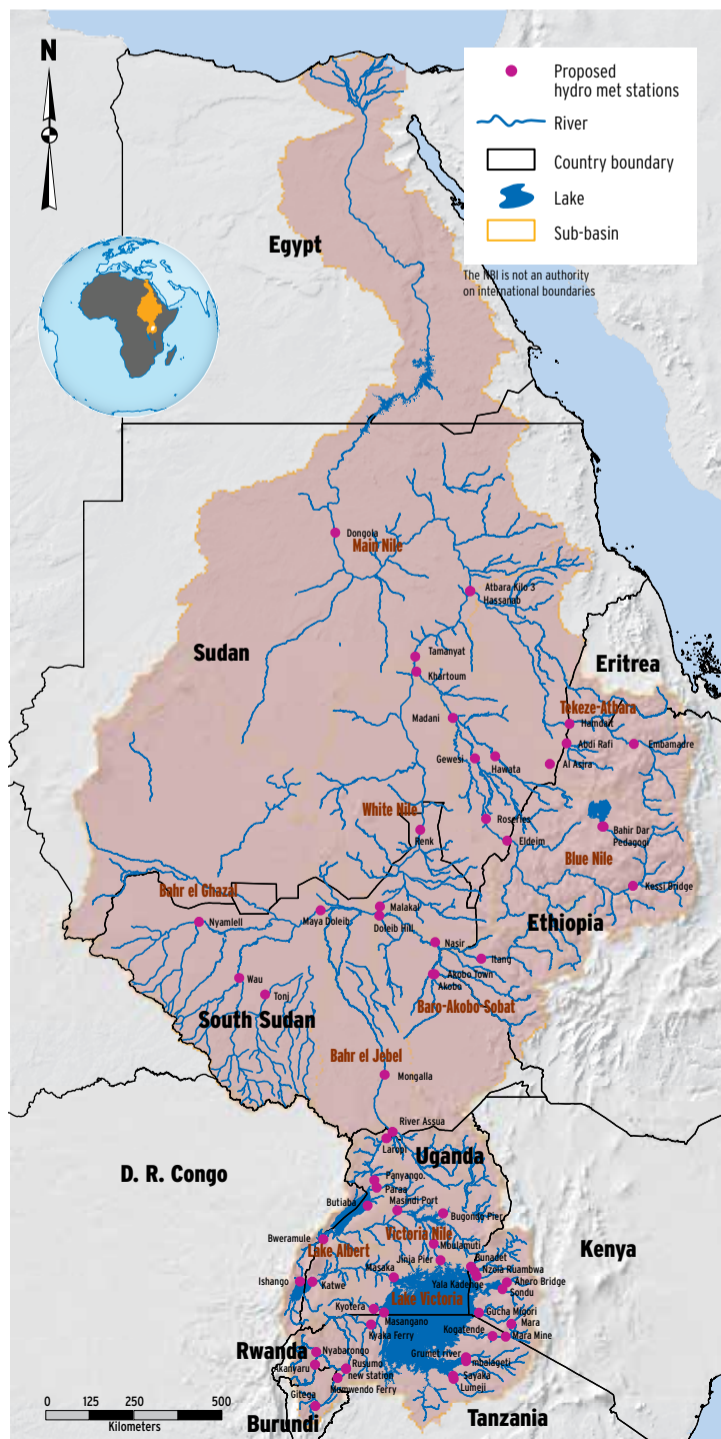
### Hydrological Network Design

The primary purpose of the existing hydrometric stations for the regional design would be for measuring streamflow at rivers and water level at lakes. In addition, the hydrometric design also includes locations by water quality and sediment monitoring, which typically aligns with streamflow gauging locations. The regional design proposes monitoring of both basic and advanced water quality parameters. The Nile Basin hydrometric design focuses on achieving the monitoring of transboundary water management issues. A total of 79 hydrometric stations are proposed for the regional network of the Nile Basin.

Summary of Proposed Regional Hydrometric Network by Country						
Country	Active	Inactive*	New	Total	# of Stations w/	
					WQ	Sediment
Burundi	2	0	0	2	1	2
DR Congo	0	0	1	1	1	0
Ethiopia	15	0	0	15	4	14
Kenya	6	0	0	6	6	1
Rwanda	6	0	1	7	6	5
South Sudan	4	6	2	12	5	2
Sudan	12	1	0	13	9	12
Tanzania	8	0	0	8	8	6
Uganda	14	1	0	15	12	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>
% of Total	85%	10%	5%	100%	66%	55%

\*Inactive Stations also include unknown or "blank" status entries originally received

### Proposed hydrometric network map



Meandering river in South Sudan



Meandering river in South Sudan

photo: Amy the Nurse/flickr.com

photo: Amy the Nurse/flickr.com

## CONCLUSION



Photo: iStock

The critical gap in data in the Nile Basin has been recognized early during the preparation of the first set of cooperative projects under NBI. As a result, NBI developed the Nile River Basin Monitoring Strategy to guide its activities for enhancing the monitoring system in the Nile Basin. The strategy was endorsed by the NBI governance and remains the guiding document for the design of the regional monitoring network.

Gaps in spatial coverage and time series in key catchments result in an incomplete understanding and knowledge of bio-physical conditions, setbacks in strategic assessment and water resources planning, suboptimal water management decisions, and delays in planning and execution of investment projects.

Some 14 issues were first identified by NBI Member States; these included: improved

water resource planning and management; flood management; rain-fed agricultural management, irrigated agricultural management; drought management; soil erosion and sediment transport; surface water quality; groundwater management; hydropower; navigation; fisheries; watershed management; wetlands management; and climate change. These regional issues played a key role in the methodology of station selection for the regional network.

Information collected by the system will be accessible to all NBI Member States through the NBI Regional Data Management system; guided by the effective data sharing protocol among the NBI countries. NBI will compile all the data collected within the riparian countries and provide synthesized information, trends, patterns, and facts that will inform both national and regional water resources planning and management.

