

D. 4.2.2: Report on the Twin2Go Water Governance Database

Twin2Go Coordinating twinning partnerships towards more
Adaptive governance in river basins

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1 Background

Twin2Go collected data about 29 national river basins and national parts of transboundary basins in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America based on case studies of EU twinning projects (see Twin2Go deliverable 2.2). The data set was the basis for a comprehensive survey of associations between water governance characteristics and performance given different environmental and socio-economic contexts (see Twin2Go deliverable 2.3). The study brought about fascinating findings. It proved that comparative analyses of a large number of cases are feasible and valuable for water governance research.

The experiences encouraged the Twin2Go consortium members not to stop their efforts at the project end, but to continue and further advance the comparative study after Twin2Go. The objective for the future is to include further case studies and to refine the survey building on a broader data set.

To this end, Twin2Go has developed a web database, which answers the following purposes:

1. to collect further case study data as a basis for refined analyses in the future
2. to make existing case study data available to the interested public
3. to provide background information on the Twin2Go approach

The database is accessible on www.watergovernance.uni-osnabrueck.de. Furthermore, the Twin2Go website (<http://www.twin2go.uos.de/study-basins/database>) provides basic information and links to it. The database is hosted on servers of the University of Osnabrueck. This ensures technical maintenance after the project end of Twin2Go. The online database combines a MySQL relational database management system with a web interface that is based on the scripting language PHP in combination with HTML and JavaScript.

The new web database will allow Twin2Go consortium members to add further case studies to the data set, to strengthen existing partnerships with case study experts and to establish new partnerships for this purpose. Especially the inclusion of case studies from regions that were not part of the Twin2Go survey (e.g. North America) is seen as beneficial to the comparative survey.

The new web database will allow to bring forward water governance research and to develop evidence-based recommendations for water policy-makers.

2 Sections of the database website

The web database is accessible on www.watergovernance.uos.de and www.watergovernance.uni-osnabrueck.de respectively (Fig. 1). The homepage provides a brief overview of the purposes associated with the database and presents links to three sections that reflect the functions of the web database. The navigation bar includes a logo with link to the Twin2Go website to acknowledge the development of the web database within the scope of this project. Furthermore, the navigation bar shows the EU flag (linking to the official website of the European Union) and FP7 Cooperation logo (linking to the FP7 Cooperation website) to acknowledge EU funding.

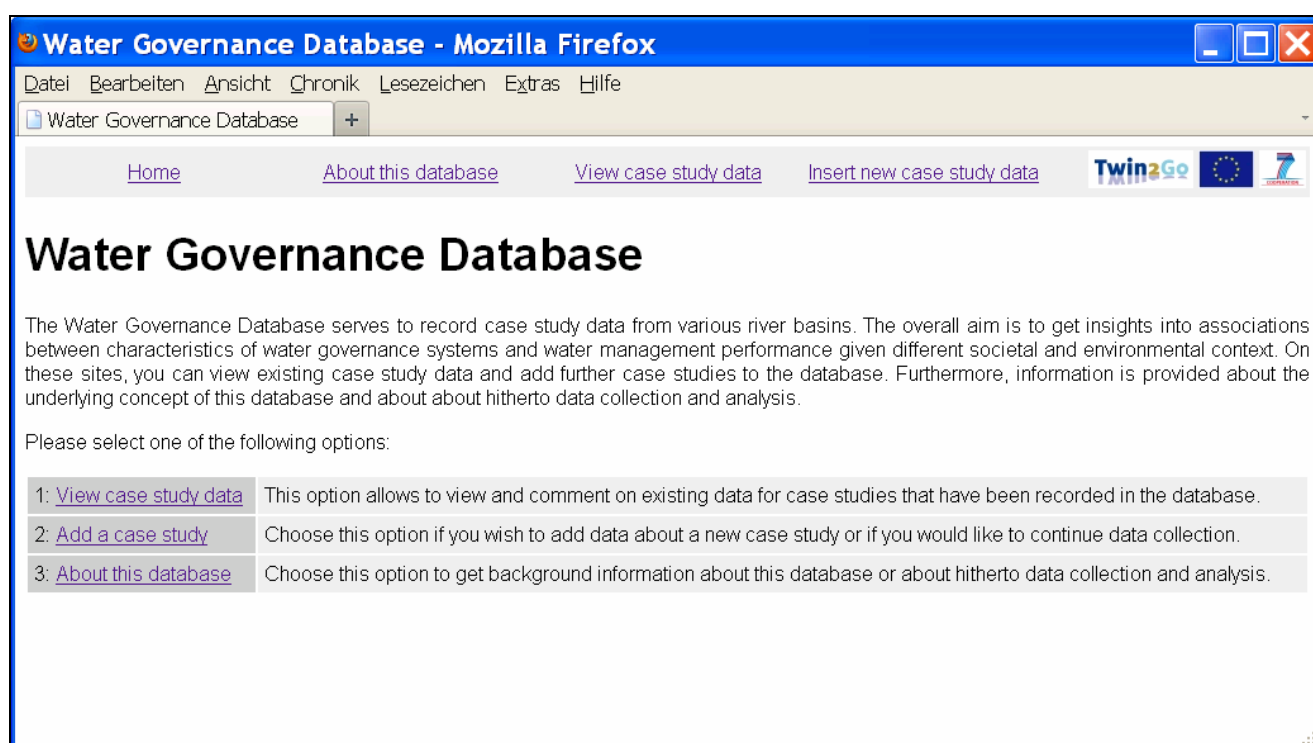


Fig. 1: Homepage of the web database (accessed on Sep. 22 2011)

2.1 Insert New Case Study data

This section allows adding data about a new case study. To avoid misuse (excessive rubbish data) and to document who adds a case study, the user needs access data, which he receives from the database team upon request. The user then needs to check if the case study, which he wants to add, already exists in the database. If this is not the case, the user can insert new case study data in two ways.

1. On the one hand, it is possible to insert case study data directly through online forms into the database (Fig. 2). To this end, the user needs to specify his contact data (name, e-mail). In case the user prefers to insert data through online forms, he can define a password for his case study. This allows him to interrupt and continue data collection at a later date. An automatic quality check draws the user's attention to missing scores as well as missing and short comments, if their number exceeds an unacceptable limit.
2. On the other hand, it is possible to download the Twin2Go questionnaire and related guidance document (see deliverable 1.3) and to send the filled questionnaire to the database team afterwards. The team is then going to transfer the case study data into the database.

Water Governance Database - Mozilla Firefox

Water Governance Database

Maas (Belgium)

Performance

Stakeholder participation

79: Deliberative engagement opportunities

Definition:
Deliberative platforms or arenas convened by state or non-state actors explore water management, development and policy options. The indicator refers to the national part of the basin of interest.

Select score:

- A: Deliberative arenas are common, widely used, and often influence decisions
- B: Deliberative arenas infrequent, partly engaged in, or rarely influence decisions
- C: Deliberative arenas rare to non-existent
- X: Unknown

Comment:
Please explain the chosen score.

80: Inclusiveness of stakeholder participation

Definition:
Degree to which all stakeholder interests are represented - with special emphasis on marginalised and vulnerable groups. The indicator refers to the national part of the basin of interest.

Select score:

- A: All stakeholders given opportunity to engage and be represented
- B: Most stakeholders
- C: Few stakeholders

Comment:
Please explain the chosen score.

Fig. 2: Online form for adding new case study data (accessed on Sep. 22 2011)

2.2 View Case Study Data

This section allows the user to view and comment on existing case study data, for which data collection has been finalised (e.g. 29 case studies from previous Twin2Go work, which have been imported into the database). Case study data can be displayed in four ways (Table 1). The first three

options allow the user to send feedback on case study-specific scores and comments, whereas the fourth option provides a statistical overview of the case study scores for all indicators.

Table 1: Options to display case study data

Option	Description
View complete data for one case study	This option allows to view all data collected for a single case study (scores and comments), as well as indicator definitions and score explanations. The user can send feedback on case study-specific scores and comments (Fig. 3).
View selected indicators for one case study	This option allows to view the values of several indicators for one case study (scores and comments), as well as indicator definitions and score explanations. The user can send feedback on case study-specific scores and comments.
View one indicator for several case studies	This option allows to view the values of one indicator for several case studies (scores and comments), as well as the indicator definition and score explanations. The user can send feedback on case study-specific scores and comments.
View statistics	This option allows to view frequency distributions of indicator values, if desired compared to a single case study (Fig. 4).

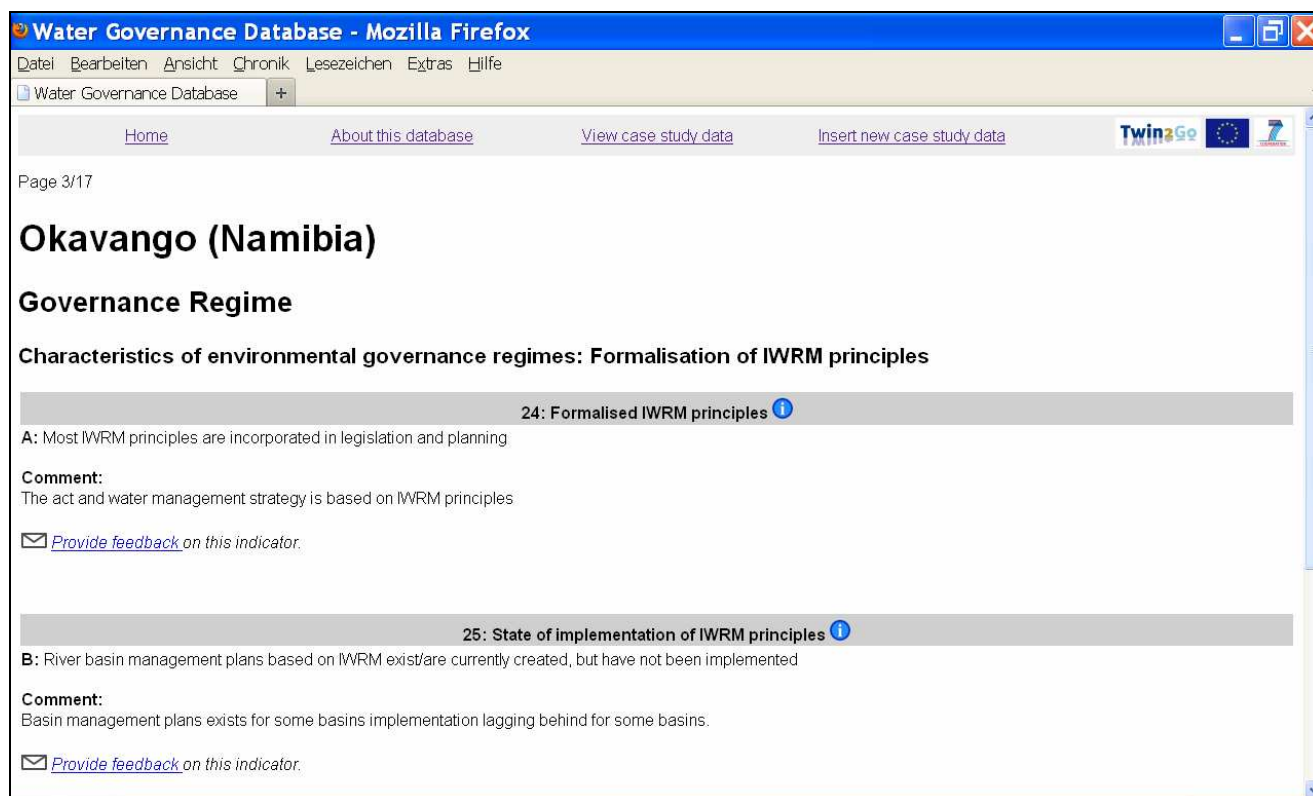


Fig. 3: Option 'View complete data for one case study' (accessed on Sep. 22 2011)

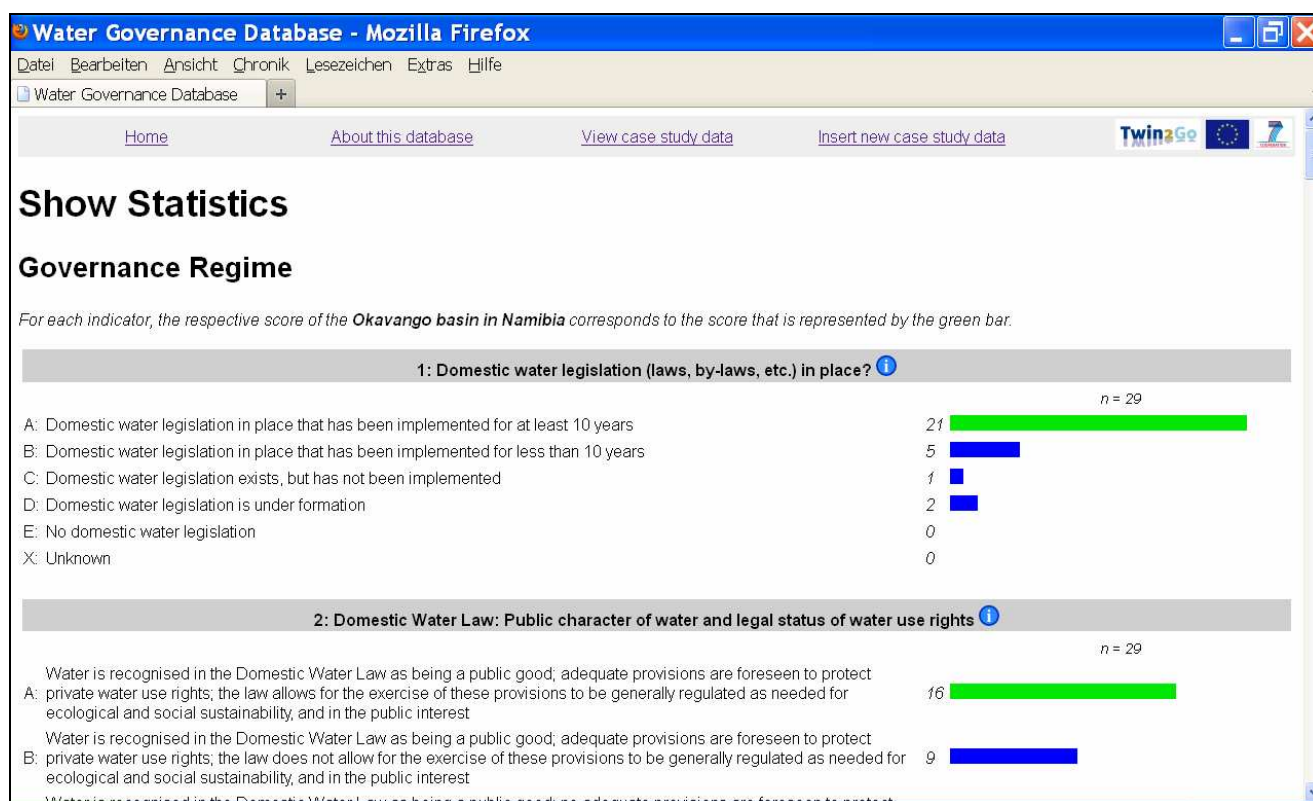


Fig. 4: Option ‘View statistics’ (accessed on Sep. 22 2011)

2.3 About this Database

The section “About this database” serves to provide background information about the web database. This includes information about the objectives of the Twin2Go project, the structure of the questionnaire, previous data collection during the project, approaches for comparative analysis as well as the main findings of the survey.

3 Outlook

The web database is a tool that will be used after the project end of Twin2Go. USF is going to care for the maintenance, administration and further development of the database and its web interface. Twin2Go partners have been encouraged to make use of the database on the basis of existing and new partnerships with case study experts. The inclusion of further case studies, especially from regions that have not been covered during the project, is expected to increase the robustness of the comparative analysis and its insights into water governance.