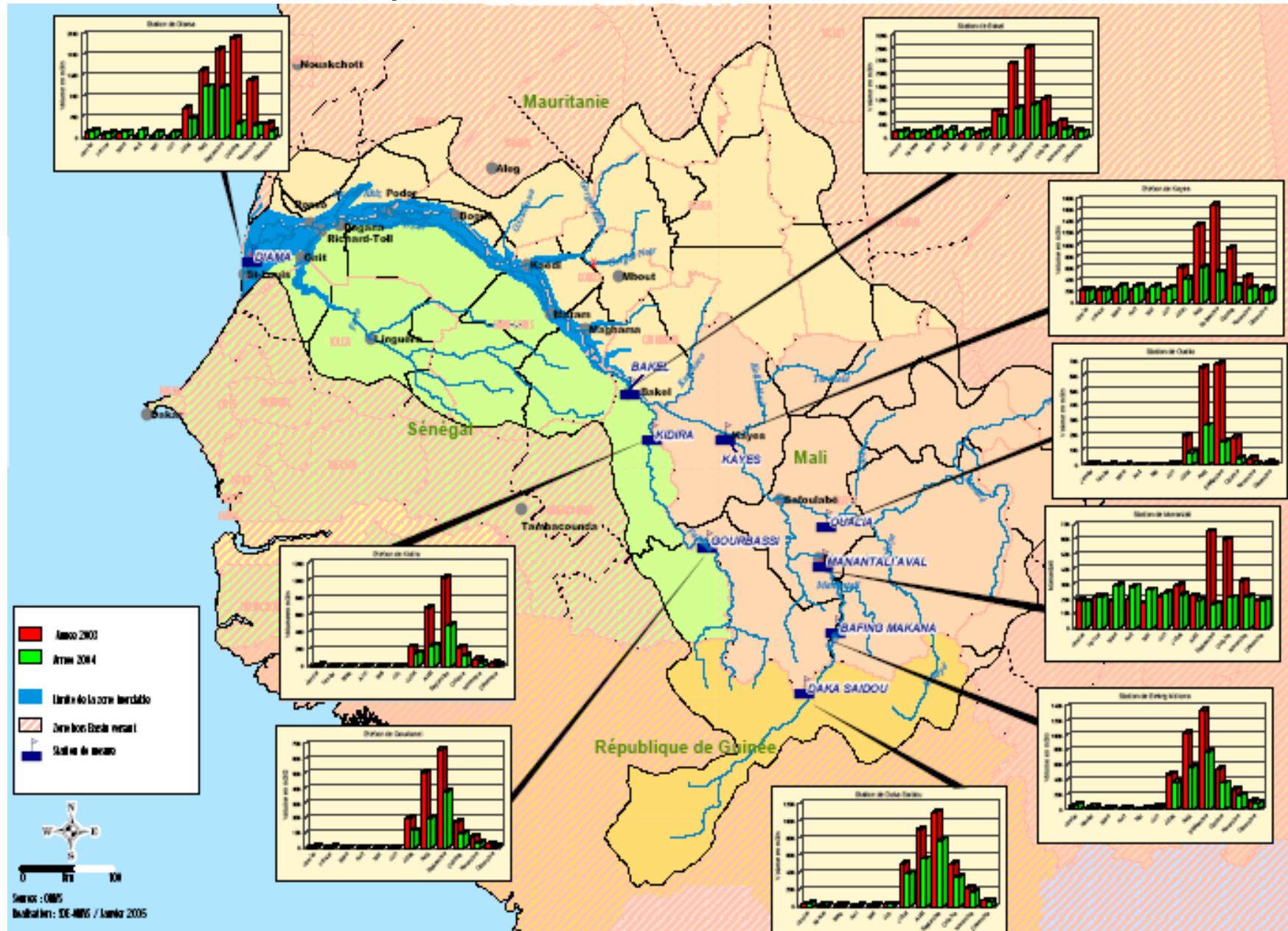


OMVS: General presentation



Main Conventions

- **Convention on the Establishment of the OMVS** defines the statutory organs as well as the mandate and competences of the Organization (**Conference of Heads of States, High Commission, Water standing Committee**)
- **Convention on the legal Status of the Senegal River:** the Senegal River (including its tributaries) is declared an international waterway in the territories of the Republics of Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. **provides for the principle of the contracting states' prior approval of all projects that are likely to modify in a noticeable way the characteristics of the river**
- **Convention on the legal Status of Jointly Owned infrastructures:** States that the common interest structures constructed on the Senegal River shall be the joint ownership of the OMVS Member States
- **Convention on financing modalities of Jointly Owned Structures:** provides for the financing modalities for the OMVS program (contributions, loans, grants), **the guarantee arrangements toward financiers** (joint and several guarantee) and a **cost and charge allocation key**
- **The Senegal River Water Charter** reinforcing the public participation and the integrated water management principles.

Main achievements

Infrastructures

- **Manantali:** stores 11 billion m³ for irrigation of 255 000 ha, make the river navigable. Is 482,8m Long and 65m high
 - 5 groups of 40 MW each;
 - 200 MW installed power;
 - Producing 800 GWh /year, guaranteed 9/10 years;
 - 1500 Km Inter connected High Power line between the 3 states.
 - 1500 km optic fiber line connected to the trans-Atlantic sub-marine cable
- **Diama:** Anti salt dam has no storage capacity. Its main role is to prevent the salt intrusion upstream.



Basin wide studies and development programs

- **Integrated Regional Infrastructure and Water Management Plan of Senegal River Basin**
- **Regional Environment Code and Environmental Actions Plan**
- **Regional Health Program**
- **Observatory of environment (control panel for environment and water quality & balance)**
- **Water saving and Regional Program for more effective irrigation systems**
- **Environmental impacts mitigation and environmental management program**
- **Early warning and disaster preparedness system**
- **GEF environmental program _ extension to Guinea, public participation, sustainability of the mitigation program beyond the Regional Energy Program**

Positive impacts

- Food security and flood control
- “Shared vision”, Peaceful cooperation and integration of the Three riparian states
- Energy exchange between the 3 state, a step toward exchange throughout West Africa
- More attractive energy sector for investment
- Strong and proven institutional framework for future development of the basin potential and conflict resolution
- Better environment management

Negative impacts

- Water borne diseases (malaria, bilharzias)
- Water weeds proliferation
- Chemical pollution from irrigational channels
- Lost of land for small flood recessing farming due to the longer duration of the artificial flood
- Lost of species of fish at the embouchure
- Delay and slow progress due to long term negotiations to reach an agreement among riparian states

Lessons learned

- None of the three countries could alone mobilize the investment for the regional infrastructure program;
- The development plans in the Basin are integrated despite the artificial boundaries inherited from the colonial time;
- Upstream-Down stream disputes are rare and anticipated;
- Permanent high level dialog opportunities allowing to solve disputes beyond the water issues
- The time spent to reach the first agreement is saved for future similar discussions in the future