The Management of Hydro-Diplomacy

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"Patience: A Portrait of the Colorado River"
By Kira Artemis Russo
Water Wars Vs. Conflict over Water

• Scarcity and Hotspots

• Tension and Cooperation
Interconnection and Complexity

- Multiple Actors
- Multiple Uses
- Multiple Values
- Various Environmental Concerns
- Various Methods for Assessment
Avoiding Escalation:

Water Management, Conflict Resolution, and Equity
Conflict to Cooperation: A Continuum

Conflict

Cooperation
Politics: Who Gets What (Water), When, and How

Hoover Dam, Arizona, USA
Water Managers

- City Employees
- Council Members
- Regional Water Boards
- Government Institutions
- Legislative Bodies
- Courts
- (Attorneys/Consultants)

Definitions of "community" also vary
Why Look at Values?

- Allows us to distinguish between political and cultural communities
- Helps us identify common perspectives and cohesive values
Legitimacy

• Dominant Narratives
  • Inclusion
  • Exclusion
  • Defines Priorities

• Develops differently between individuals and communities
• Contrasting constructions of legitimacy can be contested

• Differs across time and space, between actors, systems, and contexts
• Intrinsically fluid
Hydro-diplomacy: Toward Equity
Interdisciplinary Approach among Water Managers =
Wider Discourse, Broader Paradigms

- Social
- Scientific
- Economic
- Political
- Historical
- Multi-stakeholder Partnerships (MSPs)
- Flexible
- Shared Perspectives
Thank You!

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