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WaterData4Action uses a foundational characteristic of water as organising principle. This characteristic is the fact that water is cycling in hydrological cycles. Water therefore, is by nature a connector between processes and activities that use water. In our analyses, it is this key characteristic that we use as organising principle. With this we assess the relations of water use with the environmental, social and economic reality in the watershed. The outcome of the analysis is a truly integrated description of the situation in the watershed from the point of view of water and fully integrated with environmental, social and economic situation in the watershed. In the process, we follow a stringent scientific approach. The description of the watershed situation is thus always founded on the best available authoritative data and knowledge.



Case study: Application of the WaterData4Action framework to the Rio Frio, Zona Bananera (Colombia)

As we have seen water use is about relations. For example the relation between upstream water use and downstream water availability. Following this notion, the next step in the analysis is to understand the contribution and role of the partner(s) in the watershed in relation to the water situation.



Water platform meeting in Zona Bananera (Colombia)

It is the relation between the partner(s) activities and the watershed situation that shape the challenges with and opportunities for sustainable water use by partner(s) in the watershed. The identification of partner(s) specific relationships signals the challenges and opportunities.

Using different analyses (SWOT, Cost benefit) the most strategic set of opportunities for the partners is identified, These opportunities will provide the foundation for the partner(s) strategic action planning process. One standard activity in any water action plan is monitoring and reporting to showing how actions lead to more sustainable water use and to act as information for adaptive management.

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